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Of the Church · By the Church · For the Church

Luther League Review

The · Official · Organ · of the Luther · League · of America

A GROUP OF DELEGATES AT THE CONVENTION OF THE ILLINOIS LEAGUE, WOODSTOCK, SEPTEMBER 18, 1915.

THE BADGE OF ROYALTY

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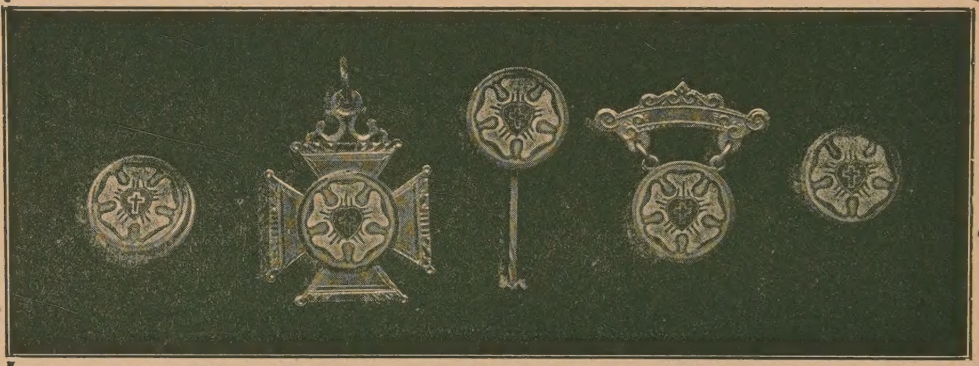

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Luther League Review

Luther League of Illinois

Twenty-First Annual Convention at Woodstock, September 16-18

BY MISS MINNIE L. LANGGUTH.

ON Thursday afternoon, September 16, 1915, the delegates of the Luther League of Illinois were welcomed by the good people of Woodstock and taken to the homes of their various hosts and hostesses, and after a hearty dinner they were ready for the first session of the State convention.

First Session

The opening session was held in the Opera House. After an anthem by the choir of Grace Church and the devotional exercises, Hon. Albert J. Olson, Mayor of Woodstock, welcomed the delegates in a manner that left no room for doubt. He said in part:

"In behalf of the people of Woodstock, I bid you welcome. I hope that the few days you spend with us will be pleasantly spent. If there is anything the city officials can do, or the Mayor personally, or the citizens, I am sure that we will do everything that can be done to make things pleasant for you. I do not know of more than two or three keys to the town, but I know a good locksmith and I shall have more keys made, so that each one of you may have a key to the town." After inviting the delegates to his creamery, to sample buttermilk, the Mayor once more bid us a hearty welcome.

The next address of welcome was by Rev. R. C. Kaufman, pastor of the church.

"I am to welcome you in the name of Grace English Lutheran Church, of Woodstock. Now Grace Church is made up almost entirely of young people, not that we do not like the old people, but our work has been mostly among the young people, so it is a church of the young people, welcoming the young people of the State to hold their convention in our midst. We are in earnest about this welcome, not only for our sakes, for it has meant work, especially for a few of us, to prepare for this convention. We did it cheerfully, as it is for the upbuilding of the Kingdom of God. Ask any favor that you want of us. If we can grant it, we will do so, and we want you to go back, if it is within our power, with a greater zeal and stronger faith, and an earnest purpose to build up the organizations of the young people in the State. Again I welcome you in the name of the members of Grace English Lutheran Church."

Mr. Emery C. Kirkman, president of the local League, welcomed the delegates as follows:

"It is with great joy that the Grace Luther League welcomes the twenty-first annual convention of the Luther League of Illinois. We feel proud that we are able to have this convention, because as a League we are only three years old, but we have grown rapidly. I am sure we welcome you. I hope that the thoughts that all the delegates and visitors receive at this convention will be of great benefit to them." Mr. Kirkman then mentioned that a number of people of other denominations had provided entertainment for the delegates and visitors, which fact is especially noteworthy.

Mr. Brissman, president of the Luther League of Illinois, responded:

"In behalf of the Luther League of Illinois, I do not think that it is necessary to state that we feel welcomed. We all feel that way, and all realize how very welcome we are, and we are indeed glad to come here among you. After these three speeches so eloquently telling us how welcome we are, it is rather hard for me to find fitting words with which to respond. But we are glad that the city is to be thrown open to us, and each and every one of us given a key. I am sure we will all use the keys, and go away feeling that the city of Woodstock and the Mayor and the officers have treated us royally."

Rev. Paul W. Roth, of Milwaukee, Wis., delivered the keynote address on "Service and the Kingdom." He said in part as follows:

I want to read to you from the Epistle of Paul to the Colossians, Chap. 3, v. 17, "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him." And from the Book of Revelations, Chap. 11, v. 15, "And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying 'The Kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of His Christ, and He shall reign for ever and ever.'"

In Jesus' time the word "service" meant to slave. A servant was a slave, but just think how He has ennobled that word—all that we do, all our work as a Christian is service. Why Christ has thus ennobled and dignified this word until it has become one of the big words of the Christian religion, a word that will stir man to one of the greatest passions that a man feels. I do not mean by service when a man is influenced by humanitarian motive, I mean by it that action to which he is brought by the highest power that is to be found operative upon man and woman, namely, the Grace of God.

You will understand better the distinction between service and work, and why it is that I say, not all work can be counted as service. We will investigate and see what we mean by this word "service" in the Kingdom of God.

When a man looks at a painting, if he is any kind of a critic at all, he at first tries to get a comprehensive view of it, and then he gets the details, studies the technique, etc. So for the keynote of this convention we are going to take a comprehensive view of the program before us, and we will study out the composition, and see how it applies to us individually.

When we speak of the Kingdom of God, we speak of a three-fold Kingdom, the Kingdom of God's power, God's grace and God's glory.

You may be prepared to admit that the stars and the law of gravity or magnetic attraction are under God's rule, but you might not be so willing to grant that wicked men and sinners are also under the Kingdom of God's power, but it is no less true. Doesn't the Bible say, "We are the clay and Thou our potter, and we all are the work of Thy hand."

When the men of the middle ages set out upon the crusades into Jerusalem they thought they were undertaking great things, but history shows us that it was a silly thing they were doing, and that they deserved failure, but in that God was accomplishing greater things. The great war that is going on today —the purpose of those engaged in it is to bring ruin and devastation; that is what man thinks he is doing. He is pleased when he accomplishes his purpose; but, my friends, let us look beyond the battlefield. You can see that the purpose of God is purification; already we can see that God is working to purify the life of Europe, and that we might learn from the sufferings of our brothers. God is using all these things to accomplish His purpose. That is the Kingdom of God's power. Do you know what that Kingdom is? It is the building material or stuff out of which the Redeemer is reconstructing the Kingdom of Grace.

No matter what kind of work we do, whether it is teaching, running a typewriter, being a mechanic, or anything else, if we regard that as being done merely for its own sake, we are taking a very small view of it. For these things do not exist merely for their own sake. We are here in the world, and these things are given us to train us, and they are the material out of which God is training us for His Kingdom, and when we see that our work is dignified in this sense, don't you see that this makes life more interesting? Everything that we do may be used by God in working out the idea of His universe.

There are only four words that I want you to remember. They are short words, but if you will use these four words as you pass through the experience and the discussions of this convention, use them as guides, I am guaranteed in the use of those words that you will carry something home with you, and you will make your presence at this convention worth while to those who sent you.

Put.—Put all your enthusiasm into the convention. Be at every meeting on time, with your mind and your attention alert.

Get.—Get is the second word. Get all you can out of the convention; enter into the discussions that are being carried on, and make the most of it. Get all you can out of it.

Hold.—Be like steel to retain.

Share.—Share with others what you get. Don't be a clam. Be like the Mayor of Woodstock, be wholehearted, whole-souled, pleasant. Give the convention the keys to the citadel of your heart, and when you get home give your Luther League at home the keys to your heart.

I hope I have put this impression on you, namely, that it is a dignified business to be a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ, for there is only one who is the absolute Master, who shall say what you think, how you shall conduct yourself all the time, and that is Jesus.

The president appointed the following credential committee: Jonas Foss, Chicago; Freda Eckardt, Woodstock; Elizabeth Soderholm, Chicago.

The male quartet of the Woodstock choir rendered a selection, and the meeting was closed with benediction by Rev. Kaufman.

Second Session

The second session was opened with the usual devotional service.

The convention sermon was preached by Rev. C. E. Derr, Ph. D., of Chicago. Rev. Derr's sermon was practical, helpful and inspiriting, and was delivered with earnestness and force.

The application from the Hauge Church of Saratoga, Ill., for membership into the State League was accepted. The credential committee made a partial report. Miss Minnie L. Langguth and Hazel Wood were appointed reporters for the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW. Mr. Harry Hodges, assistant general secretary of the Luther League of America, and Rev. Paul Roth, of Milwaukee, were granted the privileges of the floor at the convention.

The president reported very favorably upon the activities of the League during the past year, two Leagues having been added to the State League during the year. This report was referred to the resolutions committee. The president appointed the following resolutions committee: Mr. E. A. F. Kuntz, chairman, Chicago; Esther Anderson, Moline; Miss Olive Grenoble, Lena, Ill.

The executive secretary's report was next read. This report was also referred to the resolutions committee.

The treasurer reported cash on hand $27.01, and a note for $96.50. This report was referred to the auditing committee.

Miss Olive B. Grenoble read a paper, "Value of Service to the Church." She said in part:

Our Lutheran Church calls for her young people to be up and doing, earnest, active, consecrated workers; young men and women ready to put as much strength, time and enthusiasm into Christ's work as in their secular interests; young people who are ardent students of God's Word and who, as Dr. Torrey has said, are "shameless beggars in prayer."

As Christians we have a specific work to perform. Everyone who is saved should do something toward

saving others. The cause of Christ in this world needs assistance in many ways, and it is God's plan that this cause be advanced, not by the ministry of angels, not by Christ Himself, but by His people, by you, by me. The fullest hands must make room for some little part of the Master's work. If we do not realize this, then there is something very vitally wrong with us as individuals.

The value of a service depends upon several things: First, The kind of work to be done.

Christian work is the highest and noblest work. We owe to our Church our best love, our best life, our best service, our best influence, and our best help.

It hardly seems to me necessary before a gathering of Christian young people like this to mention the things we can and should do in and for our Church.

What is the value of attending our Church service? Contact with God, with individual Christians; there is received an enthusiasm for greater and more earnest work, and as a result the Christian must pledge a deeper consecration of his God given talents.

Again it is our privilege to give to the Church our generous support in a financial way. Simply giving back to God a portion of what he has given us—a just interest on His principal.

The value of this is the training we as young people receive, to give systematically, to lay aside a portion of what God has intrusted to us and return this portion to Him.

In what other better way can we enlarge our own lives than by doing our part along missionary lines? Other lines of work in the Church demand our time and effort. No one need lack the opportunity to do something. There is a place for every grade of ministry and every kind of service. Even the youngest member can find something to do and a chance to trained for larger work in years of more strength and experience.

Our Luther League is a splendid training school for young Christians. Here we have an opportunity of learning to take part in Church services. We can begin in a very humble and easy way and in a sympathetic atmosphere, and by practice can overcome our natural timidity.

If some of our societies or workers find themselves limited as to activities within their particular church, think of the avenues for Christian service outside the church, and yet of the Church.

Second. The value of a service depends upon the efficiency of the servant. Our great cry today along all secular lines is efficiency, why not along religious lines? Our Church needs efficient workers and she must have them. Let us get into training! Christian work done systematically and efficiently nets results.

The value of Christian service is realized in the greatest measure by the worker himself. It is one of the very best means of developing Christian character. It is a means of growth.

In order to grow we must go right on working Success, spelled according to our new form of spelling today, is spelled thus: S-e-r-v-i-c-e.

That day is a lost day in which we do nothing to bless some other life in the Master's Name and advance His Kingdom.

"Work for some good, be it ever so slowly;
Cherish some flower, be it ever so lowly;
Labor, all labor is noble and holy;
Let thy good deeds be a prayer to thy God."

The best thoughts brought out in the discussion were these: "Despise not the little things." "Every little thing has a part in the plan of the great worker." "Worship without work is worthless, work without worship is worthless, likewise."

The session was closed with benediction.

Third Session

The devotional service was led by Dr. Derr, followed by a vocal duet by Mrs. Harting and Mr. Steinke, of Woodstock.

The following committees were appointed: Auditing committee—C. P. Britt, Chicago; Silas Hagan, Morris, Ill.; G. Trick, Chicago. Nominating committee—J. Alex Nelson, Chicago; Floyd Krueger, Chicago; E. C. Kirkman, Woodstock.

Mr. Harry Hodges gave us some very interesting impressions of his trip West and of various delegates' meetings and conventions that he had attended. Mr. C. T. A. Anderson spoke on his favorite subject, "Finances." A paper on "Value of Service to the State," by Mr. C. Edward Carlson, of Bloomington, Ill., was then read. The following is a synopsis of the paper:

Perhaps it were wise to begin by inquiring what a State is. Let us look at a few definitions, and see what they have to offer: Webster: "The State is a

A. N. BRISSMAN,
President of the Illinois League.

political body, the whole body of a people who are united under one government, whatever may be the form of that government." Woodrow Wilson: "A State is a people organized for law within a definite territory." Edmund Burke puts it a little more poetically, but withal covers the same ground. Listen to Edmund Burke: "The State is a partnership in all science, a partnership in all art, a partnership in every virtue and in all perfection."

The definitions give us the modern idea of a State accepted by most people, but there is, or at least was, in other times, another idea of the State, and we will quote just one definition which fully and completely expresses that idea. "The State," said Napoleon Bonaparte, "*I* am the State."

As we are to treat of the value of service to the State, let us try and find the reason for the State, which may make our task easier. "A State," said Socrates, "arises out of the needs of mankind." All of us have many wants. The needs of mankind re-

quire the State; one's need of another's assistance and protection, as no one is self sufficing. Says another writer, "Political Society (that is the State) came into being for the express purpose of protecting and preserving (and we might add, defining) the rights of the individual citizen," and while of all the problems of political philosophy the most elementary (and pernaps the most vexatious) is to determine the true relation between the State and the individual citizen, there certainly can be no question whatever as to the duty of the individual citizen to the State, nor of the need the State has of the true and loyal services of its inhabitants.

A State is no greater, can be no greater, than its inhabitants make it, nor does it rise to greater achievements or greater heights than the ideals, the aspirations, and the ambitions of its individual citizens. The true greatness of a State is measured, not by its wealth alone, not by its material productions alone, not by the number of its inhabitants alone, nor yet by all of these combined, but more by their ambitions, the character, and the purity of its citizens. In what immeasurable terms then can we not all serve the State by right thinking and noble living, by creating healthy environments for the rising generations and instilling into their minds respect and admiration for our laws and our institutions; in helping our associates to better living and nobler ideals.

"The best laws," says Aristotle, "though sanctioned by every citizen of the State, will be of no avail unless the young be trained by habit and education in the spirit of the Constitution," and Mills in his essay on Liberty says, "The worth of a State in the long run is the worth of the individuals comprising it," and the worth of these individuals is in our making, and what their worth is and will be depends on the kind of service we render the State. And as the State is a partnership (a partnership is all that is true and beautiful) it needs the very best service from each and every one of us, of which we are capable, each in his own peculiar sphere.

In the State man fulfills himself as a Christian fulfills himself in Christ, and as you can find no higher type of man than he who has found himself in Christ, and for whom Christ is all in all, so you will find no truer type of citizen than he who recognizes his oneness with the State, recognizes his obligations to the State, and gives it his best endeavors, who obeys the laws scrupulously, and yields to constituted authority even though the laws be not at all times to his liking, remembering that Jesus said, "Render unto Cæsar that which is Cæsar's" who seeks by legitimate means to remedy existing evils and repeal obnoxious laws, who is not afraid to expose corruption and graft should he have the opportunity to do so.

The very foundation of the State is service. The prime purpose of, as well as necessity for, the State is service, and the State can only serve its inhabitants in the measure that its inhabitants serve the State. If service were not needed, the State itself would not be needed, and if service were not given the State would soon cease to be. The very life of the State is service, and the character of this service which you and I give it determines the character of the State.

The next paper was read by Elmer A. F. Kuntz, of Chicago, Ill., on "Value of Service to the Individual." Mr. Kuntz said in substance:

The influence of others has a great influence on our own characters. Should our associates, therefore, be of a type morally and spiritually low, then may it be assumed that this fellowship will result detrimentally to our own spiritual progress and will stunt our moral growth. If, however, our associations are with people of good Christian character, then may it be assumed that this association will serve to direct our thoughts and actions toward the fulfillment of higher and nobler Christian motives and will greatly assist us in our spiritual growth. Therefore I say, our associates determine largely our own characters.

Christian service stimulates the spark of kindness and love within our hearts and generates a noble spirit that brings peace and comfort to those who feel its influence, for the influence of a kind heart is far-reaching.

Christian service tends to bring into being our highest thoughts and ideals, ideals which make for the steady progress of the world to a higher and nobler plane.

As the sunshine and rain are necessary to bring the flower to its fullest beauty, even so is Christianity necessary to the realization of the higher ideals of the human heart, for man's higher nature is his spiritual nature.

If there is any time in life in which a person needs most to be under the guiding influence of the Church, it is between the ages of fourteen and twenty-one, at which period of life all the wild desires of youth seem to crop out. However, youth demands its pleasure and recreation and it is only right that it should not be denied them. The danger lies, however, in the fact that most young people seek their pleasure not in the Church, but outside of it, and are thus subject to demoralizing influences, which if not checked, may lead to the ultimate destruction of the better qualities of these young people. Here is where we have another evidence of the value of Christian service.

Service is valuable to the individual because it brings him closer to God. Those beautiful ideals which make for better men and women are strengthened and increased by reason of our faithfulness to our Christian duties. No corrupting influences will be allowed to enter our lives and eat away the foundation of a beautiful and consecrated Christian character. Environment has a great influence on our lives and association with unchristian characters will in time wreck even the strongest characters.

Christian service keeps us from the pernicious influences which surround us, develops our sense of personal responsibility, broadens our perception and makes us better citizens. It brings into service our latent abilities, for in our service we are called upon for diverse duties which serve to bring out and develop our unused talents. It brings us into touch with the best men and women and enables us to exert an uplifting influence in our community.

After the discussion on these papers, the subject of athletics was brought up and many interesting suggestions were made, and Rev. Kuhns, General Secretary, closed the discussion.

The third session was then closed with prayer.

Fourth Session

The fourth session was held in the Opera House, as the church would not accommodate the large audience. It was opened with an anthem by Grace choir.

Miss Violet Gahlbeck, of Elgin, rendered a vocal solo, after which we listened to the convention address, by Dr. Gustav Andreen, president of the Augustana College, Rock Island, Ill. Dr. Andreen said in part:

My friends of the Luther League, as we are gathered here, we are gathered because we feel we have a heritage worth keeping. God has given us command in the Psalm, and through His Word. For that purpose you come together, to give ear to these things that lie before you. No doubt these days have been days of attention and days of contemplation, and as you go forth you will do as did Mary, the mother of Jesus, "She pondered upon these words," and so we will ponder.

This Psalm at once begins to speak of those things that come to us from God, and the great heritage that we ought to retain, must certainly come from the Father, otherwise it would not be the great heritage. I have seen mothers and fathers, how they gather and how they save in order that they might give something to their children, as they pass away. I have seen it in the city, on the farms, everywhere. I have seen parents who have given a good farm, a good bank account, or something, they have given their lives that they might give an inheritance of this kind to their children. We all feel that way; we all feel as though we want to give our children something fine; it is something that we strive for, that we put our best endeavors into. However, some parents may gather something to give their children as an inheritance, yet leave them poor indeed. They may gather much of this world's property, of the goods of this world, they may gather that in abundance, and yet leave them poverty stricken. And again a mother

and father may not be able to leave their children very much of this world's goods, they may not be able to leave a farm, or a bank account, or property, yet they may leave something better than anything that can be mentioned of what belongs to the present time; they leave not only a good name and a good character, but leave a knowledge of the Scripture.

Now we come to that part about our duty. We read in the 2nd Kings about the duty of young people. It is an interesting story. These sons of the prophets came to Elisha and asked him for his permission. He represents to them what Mullenberg represents to the East, a great leader to whom the younger people looked up, and they came to him and asked him if he would not allow them to go ahead and build a larger dwelling place. If there is anything that makes a man feel young it is to have young men come and talk to him and ask for advice, and so in our Church work, a pastor, even though he may be old in years, he is again young, in his association with young people. And so Elisha, when he saw those young people come to him and say "Let us do something," he had the right kind of spirit,—they must have rejoiced when they heard him say, "Go ye." And he, as he saw that enthusiasm of youth, he must have been happy. Why, I imagine that that enthusiasm of youth always fills the hearts of those who are interested in the young, with joy.

"Every man his beam"; that means ever accomplishing something; it means putting your best effort to test, or if you do not do that, you will not have the enjoyment you should by taking part in the work of the Kingdom of God. We are so apt to rely on leaders, possibly we rely upon our parents. Maybe our father is a good religious man, he leads us in prayer, in the morning and in the evening, and we throw our duty on him. It is the same way in the work of the Church; we expect the pastor to do all the work. We throw the whole burden upon him. The young people should do the work. Do not let it all to the old people.

Don't criticise. Whenever there is any criticising, it is always the fellow that doesn't want to do anything that wants to criticise. We should not stand aloof from the work, but when we do our work, we haven't time to criticise. We have only time to do our work well, and we won't worry so much about the others present, when we ourselves are kept busy. It is a bad sign when people begin to criticise.

There cannot be a feeling of service, unless there is a feeling of responsibility. We must feel responsible to God, or we cannot feel service. So with reference to our property, we may be bankers, people of wealth, but remember it is a gift from God, because He has given us the powers by which we have acquired it. God will give us the spirit to appreciate our heritage, and He will give us the power to accomplish the great duty that lies before us. So again, God bless you, young people of the Luther League, for His name's sake.

Miss Georgina Huebner, of Chicago, rendered a vocal solo, after which the meeting closed with the singing of the Luther League Rally Hymn.

Fifth Session

The fifth session was opened with devotional service, led by Rev. David A. Davy, of Chicago.

The auditing committee reported that they found the books of the treasurer correct.

The following officers were elected: President, Mr. A. N. Brissman, Moline; Ex. secretary, Miss Elizabeth Soderholm, Holy Trinity, Chicago; recording secretary, Miss Hulda Miller, Bethel Church, Chicago; treasurer, C. C. Eisemann, Augsburg Church, Chicago. Mr. C. T. A. Anderson was elected to the executive committee for the term of three years and Mr. Emery Kirkman, of Woodstock, for the term of two years.

The credential committee made the following report: There are present 120 delegates and visitors, and six pastors.

The secretary was instructed to write a letter of sympathy to Miss May C. Melander, whose father recently died.

The resolutions committee made its report as follows:

We, the Luther League of Illinois, in convention assembled in Grace Lutheran Church of Woodstock, Ill., with prayerful hearts and with thanks to Almighty God for our continued peace and prosperity during the past year, especially in view of the terrible strife now disrupting our brethren across the seas, pray that His blessing may be upon us in the coming year, and that through His guidance we may enjoy further peace and prosperity and may be enabled to do greater things for the advancement of God's Kingdom.

1. We endorse the helpful literature of the Luther League and urge its use, especially the use of the Luther League Topics, and urge our members to become subscribers to the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW.

2. We urge upon all local Leagues to be prompt in remitting dues to their district treasurer, that they in turn may be enabled to remit to the State treasurer.

3. We urge upon our local Leagues to have secretaries forward their statistical reports promptly and to be more prompt in answering correspondence, also that all correspondence be read promptly to their own Leagues.

4. We endorse the recommendation of the treasurer that the executive secretary and extension committee co-operate in securing a revised and up to date list of local societies and their officers.

5. We believe that district, State and national officers may derive much benefit from suggestions from individual members, and therefore recommend that the members give any helpful suggestion they may have, to the officers, who will most certainly appreciate them.

6. We recommend that a greater effort be made in extension work in the State League in the coming year.

7. We recommend that all greetings sent to the convention be thankfully acknowledged by the secretary.

8. Resolved, that we request our various Lutheran publications to give more consideration to the affairs of the Luther League.

9. We recommend that a vote of thanks be given to the officers of the State organization for their faithful and efficient service during the year.

10. We recommend that a rising vote of thanks be given the press of Woodstock for

the splendid recognition given our convention by them. 2. That a vote of thanks be given all those who have inspired and helped us by taking part in the program. 3. We desire to express our appreciation of the courteous, kindly and hospitable manner in which we have been entertained by the members and friends of Grace Church, and especially to those good people of other denominations who have thrown their homes open to our delegates and visitors. 4. We greatly appreciate and desire to thank His Honor, Mayor Olson of Woodstock, for his kindly interest and assistance. 5. We also desire to thank the members of the local committee for their splendid efforts in placing the delegates and the work done by them.

11. We recommend that a copy of these resolutions be spread upon our minutes, and a copy be given to the press, and copies be sent to the editor of the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW, and other Lutheran publications.

Respectfully submitted,
ELMER A. F. KUNTZ,
OLIVE B. GRENOBLE,
ESTHER ANDERSON,
Committee.

The report was adopted.

The president appointed Mr. J. Alex. Nelson chairman of the extension committee.

Rev. Kuhns, General Secretary, made an announcement relative to the national convention, which will be held in Toledo, Ohio, on August 15, 16 and 17, 1916.

Rev. Kuhns brought greetings from the Luther Leagues of Kansas, Iowa, South Dakota and Nebraska.

The last order of business was the Luther League institute led by Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, from which we gathered many helpful suggestions to assist in carrying on the work of the Leagues.

After a few closing remarks by the president, the most inspiring and enthusiastic convention that has yet been held by the Luther League of Illinois was closed with the singing of the Rally Hymn.

The good people of Woodstock had arranged an outing for the delegates on Saturday afternoon. However, as it rained all morning, the outing was changed to a social meeting in the church parlors. A delicious lunch was served. After this a program arranged by Mr. J. Alex. Nelson was given. There were a number of vocal selections, and readings and impersonaations by talented Leaguers who were present. Short addresses were made by the officers and others present. If the old saying, "Laugh and grow fat," is true, all our Luther Leaguers must have gained considerable weight that afternoon, for every member seemed to enjoy himself or herself to the limit, and the twenty-first convention became a memory, but such a pleasant memory that it will be cherished for years.

A BIBLICAL ATHLETE

The Christian has been compared to an old runner of Scripture times, competing for a prize and freeing himself from impeding weight to obtain success. This comparison finds a responsive note in the experience of most individuals. The figure of the Christian athlete is drawn from the Grecian games. Possibly the reference is to the celebrated Isthmian games. The race and prize for which Paul contested is of a different kind from the one so familiar to the Greeks. As an apostle Paul was anxious to merit the "Well done" of Christ. Effective and abundant work was his desire. Self denial was his practice, and he had as hard work in this world as any of us. His aim was clear. Personal salvation was the goal he intended to reach. This glorious prize he was eager and anxious to gain. As an apostle he ran the race and upon the course we must travel. The same reward is before us. Runners, leapers, wrestlers, throwers in the stadium have a prize to win, but the prize is received only by one. In the Christian race, all may receive a prize. This means discipline. Whoever engages in a foot race or any athletic contest trains to qualify himself for either the trial of speed, or skill, or endurance. Such training is not an accident. It is designed as part of the preparation necessary to success in the contest. This may not be easy. "Luther, in the midst of his high-spirited reforming labors, was heard one day to cry out in agony, 'My sin, my sin!' No one can read the confessions of Augustine without feeling the keenness with which this holy man realized the power of his besetting sin, and the narrow escape he had from destruction because of it. Paul seemed in terror at times that, even as a preacher and an apostle, he might become a castaway." This means the observance of the rules of the contest. Pride and obstinacy must be broken down. Instead of self-seeking, we must lay ourselves out for the work. We must contest fairly and lawfully. The contest requires conscientious work.

Luther League of Minnesota.

Sixteenth Annual Convention, Minneapolis, July 6th to 8th.

BY ALLEN G. SWENSON.

THE sixteenth annual convention of the Luther League of Minnesota was held at St. John's Church, Minneapolis, the Rev. A. F. Elmquist, Ph.D., pastor, July 6, 7 and 8. The convention opened on Tuesday evening, July 6, at 8:15. The devotional service was conducted by the Rev. W. P. Christy, of St. Mark's Church, Minneapolis. Mr. Harry Anderson gave the address of welcome and the State president responded. The opening convention sermon was preached by the Rev. C. J. Rockey, State president, on "The Luther Leaguer and the Supreme Ideal," from Psalms 16:8, "I have set the Lord always before me." The first session closed with the singing of the rally hymn.

DELEGATES TO THE CONVENTION OF THE LUTHER LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA.

The second session was opened Wednesday morning with a devotional service by Rev. J. S. Albert. The president gave his report. The treasurer, Mr. Herman Turner, reported a balance of $17.47. The statistical secretary, Miss Mary Horne, gave the most complete report heard in our State League for years and had a large detailed report of each League upon large sheets of cardboard tacked upon the wall of the vestibule of the church. Four Leagues were admitted to membership in the State League: St. John's League, Duluth; St. Mark's, North St. Paul; Faith, St. Paul; the League of Richfield, Minn. A detailed report of the National Convention at Baltimore was given by Arthur Turner, delegate to the National Luther League Convention. Committees were appointed.

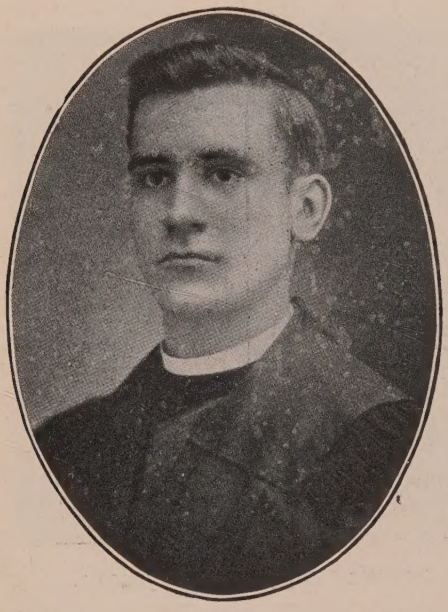
At the close of the business session two papers were read on "The Value of Organization"; the one on "In Local League Work," by Miss Edith Chaline, and the other on "In District, State and National," by Miss Malinda Skoglund. The papers were discussed at length.

The third session, Wednesday afternoon, was opened with a devotional service by the Rev. H. L. Bosserman. "A Forty-five Minute Model Devotional Meeting," conducted by Mr. C. A. Carlson, treasurer of the Twin City District, proved to be one of the best items on the entire program, a lively discussion ensuing. Open discussion without papers on the subjects "The Possibility of Holding a Devotional Meeting," "The Value of the Devotional Meeting," and "The Method of the Devotional Meeting" filled the remainder of a most interesting afternoon. The discussion was long and spirited. All agreed that the model devotional meeting was a decided success and that it was one of the most interesting ever found on the program.

The devotional service for the fourth session, Wednesday evening, was conducted by the Rev. G. H. Trabert, D. D. Prof.

George M. Stephenson, of the University of Minnesota, gave a most instructive lecture on "John Huss and Religious Liberty" in commemoration of the five hundredth anniversary of the burning of Huss. The evening session closed with the singing of the rally hymn.

The opening service of the fifth session, Thursday morning, was conducted by the Rev. Chas. L. Grant. The report of the Committee on President's Report and Resolutions was read by the chairman, Rev. J. S. Albert, and considered item by item. The recommendations to close the treasurer's books with the calendar year, in conformity



C. J. ROCKEY,
New President of Luther League of Minnesota.

with the practice of the national treasurer; to hold devotional meeting wherever and whenever at all practicable; to use the Topics; to subscribe to the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW; to place Lutheran literature in the public libraries and reading rooms of the State, were all adopted. The League expressed its appreciation of the untiring efforts of its president, the Rev. C. J. Rockey, during the year, and a rousing vote of thanks to the entertaining League for the kindness and magnificent hospitality shown.

The auditing committee reported through its chairman, Mr. Earl Nielsen. The report, with its recommendations for a new loose leaf ledger and file for bills, was adopted. Miss Vera Larsen reported for the nominating committee. The election of officers resulted as follows:

President—Rev. C. J. Rockey, Minneapolis.

Recording secretary—Miss Albertha Gustafson, Minneapolis.

Corresponding secretary—Miss Serapha Peterson, North St. Paul.

Statistical secretary—Miss Irene Adler, Red Wing.

Treasurer—A. F. Olson, Duluth.

The president and secretary were authorized to prepare a complete constitution for submission at the next convention.

A paper on "The Luther League as a Training School" was then read by Allen G. Swenson. The paper brought forth much discussion.

The opening service of the sixth session, Thursday afternoon, was conducted by the Rev. James F. Beates. The Rev. F. A. Schaffnit, City Missionary of Minneapolis and Superintendent of the Inner Mission Society, spoke on the work of that society. An excellent paper on "The Individual Leaguer," by Miss Cora Clement, of Albert Lea, was read by Miss Serapha Peterson in the absence of the writer. Lack of time forbade merited discussion.

At the final business session a resolution was passed recommending that all Leagues shall adopt some particular mission or benevolent work. An invitation from the Luther League of Trinity Church, Lindstrom, to hold the next convention there, in July, 1916, was accepted.

The seventh and final session of the convention was opened with devotional service by the Rev. L. Franklin Gruber. The address of the evening was given by Prof. Arthur Wald, of Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minn., on "The Luther League and Civic Righteousness." An interesting part of the evening program was a Question Box conducted by the State president.

The sixteenth convention at St. John's Church will long be remembered by Minnesota Leaguers. The hospitality was truly magnificent. All meals were eaten in the basement of the church at large family tables seating thirty each. The music was furnished by the combined choirs of St. John's and Trinity Churches. On Thursday afternoon delegates and visitors were treated to an automobile ride along the pleasant boulevards around the many large lakes and parks which make Minneapolis one of the most beautiful cities of the United States.

Luther League of Wisconsin

Seventeenth Convention at Oshkosh, August 17-19

BY EWALD L. MOERKE.

THE seventeenth convention of the Luther League of Wisconsin was held in St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Oshkosh, Wis., Rev. William C. Stump, pastor, August 17, 18 and 19. St. John's Church is a beautiful new stone Gothic church. It is a delightful house of worship and churchly in its appointments.

The convention opened Tuesday evening with Rev. Dr. W. K. Frick, of Milwaukee, in charge of the liturgical service. Greetings and welcome were extended by Mr. Norman Anderson, president of the Luther League of Oshkosh. Mr. George W. Rapps, of Milwaukee, acting president of the State League, made a fitting response to the hospitable welcome extended by Mr. Anderson. The opening address of the convention, on "Helpfulness and Loyalty," was delivered by Dr. Elmer F. Krauss, president-elect of the Chicago Lutheran Seminary, Maywood, Ill. Dr. Krauss based his remarks on the 137th Psalm, the fifth and sixth verses. He spoke of the things for which the Church stood as causes for loyalty and cited instances manifesting its helpfulness. It was an eloquent address.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, OSHKOSH,
Where the Wisconsin convention was held.

After the closing services a "Get Acquainted" hour followed in the parlors of the church. Short addresses were made by visiting pastors and delegates. It was a very pleasant social time thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

The devotional services of the convention were in charge of Rev. Rex, of Racine.

The second session began with the report of the committee on credentials, which reported twenty-seven delegates and visitors representing twelve churches and nine cities present. The report was received and the delegates were seated. The roll call showed all delegates present.

The General Secretary of the Luther League of America, Rev. L. M. Kuhns, presented the greetings of various State conventions and spoke of the convention of the Luther League of America to be held in Ohio in 1916. The reports of the officers and committees were presented and referred to a committee on papers and resolutions. The treasurer's report was referred to an auditing committee. The following committees were appointed by the president: Resolutions committee, Rev. Dr. W. K. Frick, Mr. H. Delaporte, Miss Brechler, Miss Midtbon and Miss Krueger; auditing committee, I. A. Fagerland, Miss Meske and Mr. B. Stecker. The president read his report, which was referred to the committee on resolutions. The credential committee was directed to ascertain the number of active Leagues and membership in connection with the State League. The extension committee and the press committee made encouraging reports, which were referred to the committee on papers and resolutions. At the request of the convention, Rev. Kuhns made a report on the national convention at Baltimore.

The following committees were appointed by the president: Press committee, Miss Jennie Halverson, Stoughton; J. Heiligenthal, Milwaukee; E. L. Moerke, Madison; William Fahrman, Oshkosh, and Rev.

Stump, Oshkosh. Nominating committee, I. A. Fagerland, Miss F. Magerfleish, Miss E. Brechler, Miss M. Rasmussen and Rev. Rex.

A paper, "Fitting the Luther League Training Into the Activities of the Church," prepared by Miss Anna N. Hinn, corresponding secretary, of Fennimore, was read by Miss Edna Brechler, of Fennimore, as follows:

The Luther League should claim the years in which the minds of these young people are being developed and in which they should be trained for efficiency in church work. Confirmation day is looked upon by many as a day of graduation from every form of religious education and Bible study. Should the children at that age be allowed to grow up with that idea? Should their religious education be dropped there? Up to the time of confirmation the children have taken facts and beliefs from their instructors. The Luther League teaches them to search and work out truths for themselves. The truths thus acquired are personal property of the individual Christian. They learn to discuss topics in the devotional meetings and to present intelligent testimonies of their faith.

MR. GEO. W. RAPPS,
New President of Luther League of Wisconsin.

The Luther League, besides teaching the doctrines of the Church, aims to teach its young people the history of the Church. In studying the doctrines and history of the Church the young people form a foundation which can never be taken from them. When they come to be workers in the Church itself they will know why they are Lutherans and what is expected of them if they are to be efficient workers and good Lutheran Christians.

The leaders of today in the Church naturally cannot be the leaders of tomorrow. The members of the Luther League must step forward and take the places of those gone before them. No one doubts the adaptability of the young American, but can a man fill the place of leadership on the church board, will any woman successfully fill the place of leadership in the work of a church society, unless they have a knowledge of the Church in which they are to work and training in her social needs? The Master's work demands knowledge, faith and zeal. Is there any place where these can better be planted in the hearts of the young people than in the Luther League? Therefore, the Luther League should aim to train her young people to efficient leadership in the Church.

A general discussion followed, participated in by Revs. Frick, Rex and others.

The third session, Wednesday afternoon, opened with devotional services and roll call. The auditing committee reported they had examined the books and accounts of the treasurer and found them correct. The report was adopted and the committee discharged. Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, General Secretary of the Luther League of America, conducted a Luther League Institute which brought nearly every delegate present to the floor and was participated in by the pastors and visitors present as well as the delegates. It was the practical session of the convention. Dr. Frick discussed "What Can Be Done Toward Securing Attendance and Awakening Interest in the Luther League?" Rev. Somers and Rev. Rex spoke on the topic, "Awakening Interest in the Luther League" and "Developing the Intellectual and Spiritual Side of the League." The discussions were generally participated in by the delegates. Rev. Kuhns spoke on "What the League Is Doing and What It Is Accomplishing." A solo was rendered by Miss Alice Manzer.

The rally meeting was held on Wednesday night, the music being furnished by St. Paul's choir of Neenah. "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" was sung and the 46th Psalm read responsively. Rev. Rex took the place of Mr. Lewis A. Anderson, Deputy Insurance Commissioner, Madison, who was prevented by sickness from being present, and addressed the convention on "Why Am I a Lutheran?" Dr. Frick took the place of Dr. A. F. Elmquist, of Minneapolis, and spoke on "The Christian Year in Christian Worship." The Luther League Rally Hymn was sung. The liturgical services of the evening were in charge of Rev. C. P. Weiskotten, of Milwaukee.

The last business session of the convention was opened with devotional services conducted by Rev. Weiskotten. The committee on resolutions reported, endorsing the recommendation of the president. The credential committee reported a total of two hundred Leaguers in Wisconsin. It was recommended that those present try to interest all in the work of the State League. The names and addresses of the delegates were taken by the corresponding secretary for the purpose of establishing a card catalogue. Mr. Ewald L. Moerke, of

Luther Memorial Church, Madison, read a paper, "What the Luther League Demands of a Luther Leaguer." He said:

What the League Demands of a Leaguer.

We may consider this question from two viewpoints, (1) from that of the Local League, (2) from that of the State and National Leagues.

There are some very ordinary things that the Local League demands of its members, as, for instance, the paying of dues and attending the meetings. Every society demands these of its members. But we must not fall into the delusion that aside from this the League demands nothing else.

The Luther League, first of all, demands the right kind of humility of its members. In the Luther League "Rally Hymn" we sing that we have given our allegiance to Jesus Christ. To give allegiance means to put all things and other notions under the desires and wishes of the one to whom allegiance is given. Sometimes there is a jealous rivalry between Leaguers as to who should do this or that. Personal prejudice is often the cause of the League becoming dormant. If true humbleness prevailed in the League things would run much more smoothly and every member would be content to do his or her part. On the other hand, people can be so modest as to be content to let anyone else do anything they wish to do. The result is that finally these modest people lose all interest and do nothing at all.

Close to the idea of humility is that of unity of purpose. No interested Leaguer can fail to see what the big work of his or her individual League is. It should then be his purpose to do that work. Regardless of what his or her little part of the larger work may be, the true Luther Leaguer will be concerned only as to the outcome of the whole project. That is working as a unit. No other division of church work has ever reminded me as much of an army as the Luther League.

The Local League demands more things in detail of its members than have just been mentioned. It is my purpose, however, to devote some time to the demands the State League makes upon the Leaguer. We are considering methods for bettering our Luther League. Some may question the necessity of having a well organized State League. But we all know that no matter what the efficiency of a single society may be, this efficiency can be doubled through a connection with other societies working for the same purpose. The State Luther League affords a means of combination and co-operation between Leagues and, if the State Leagues are in good running order, the National Luther League of America will be a stronger organization. Such an organization ought to be a force in this land, but how many Luther Leaguers ever feel as though they were vitally connected with the Luther League of America through the State League? Every Leaguer certainly has duties and obligations to the State League.

One of the things that the State and National Leagues demand of all Leaguers is that they keep themselves informed as to what is going on in the Luther League of America. By being too individualistic and self-centered the Local League is not availing itself of the valuable information that the Luther League has gained in coping with many difficult problems. Let us impart the methods we have learned to others. One very good plan is to read the REVIEW and another is to send communications to it. In that way the methods of the Luther League would really become its undivided property.

The first three points under the heading Objects, Article 3, of our State Constitution have to do with co-operation and union between Local Leagues, State Leagues and the National League. "Co-operation" and "Federation" then are demanded by the League. As every Local League demands co-operation between its officers and members, so the State League must demand the same. Local Leagues must elect secretaries and presidents who will not only do their own League work, but who will co-operate with the officers of the State League. They must attend to their correspondence promptly, as there is nothing more discouraging than delayed correspondence. When new officers are elected the State secretary should be notified at once.

The Luther League demands association with the Young People's Societies of the Lutheran Churches within this State. We should as a State League begin to think about bringing the Lutheran Church together in Wisconsin. The next convention ought to have delegates representing in a true sense the Lutheran Church of Wisconsin. The thought of all the Young People's Societies and the total lack of co-operation and association between them reminds me of a Word of God to St. Paul at Corinth, "I have much people in this city." Has He not much people in this State? Let that Word be applied to our State Luther League work. It demands that we make more effort to gather the young people of our vicinities. The president of our State League at the last convention very aptly put the thoughts on this matter to words when he said, "Here is a vast army of ungathered souls, and with the endowments of youth, a living faith, and a splendid vision providentially placed which will lead the League along the line of her original purposes and at the same time challenge her strength and courage."

How is this demand made by the Luther League? Not as some organizations demand by an oath, but because it is the Will of God. "For the love of Christ constraineth us." "Of the Church, By the Church, For the Church."

The officers elected are: President, George W. Rapps, Milwaukee; corresponding secretary, Anna Hinn, Fennimore; recording secretary, Norman Anderson, Oshkosh; treasurer, Jennie Outmanns, La Crosse. Delegates were elected to the convention of America at Toledo in 1916 and the president was empowered to name ten alternates to the Toledo convention.

Thursday afternoon the local League tendered the delegates and visitors to the convention an outing and supper at Menominee Park. One of the features of the afternoon was the privilege enjoyed by the visitors of witnessing the inter-State yacht race on Lake Winnebago.

The closing session was held on Thursday evening. The address of the evening was delivered by Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, General Secretary of the Luther League of America. Mr. Edward Janz, of Oshkosh, sang the offertory solo. President Rapps named the following extension committee for the ensuing year: Hon. Lewis A. Anderson, chairman, Madison; Miss Jennie Halverson, Stoughton; Miss Anna Hinn, Fennimore; Rev. W. F. Rex, Racine, and Harold Delaporte, Milwaukee. The press committee is Rev. W. C. Stump, Oshkosh; Miss Gilda Midtbon, Stoughton; Miss Edna Brechler, Fennimore; Miss Mabelle Meske, Milwaukee, and Miss Selma Kanitz, Milwaukee.

After the closing liturgical services, conducted by the pastor, Rev. W. C. Stump, the delegates and visitors were invited to the parlors of the church, where refreshments were served and the final good-bys said. One of the pastors present said, "I was almost swamped by work and will have trouble to get out from under the load in time for the meeting of the Synod, but the call of the Oshkosh Luther League convention was legitimate, and I not only do not regret having gone, but am 'very pleased.'"

The Life Everlasting

BY REV. THOS. A. HIMES, D. D.

THE part of the scripture text upon which the subject is based is the question of the lawyer, "What shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?" and the answer of Jesus, "This do and thou shalt live."

The fact that this question was asked of Jesus at different times and by different individuals shows that it was a common question among the Jews at the time of Christ, and that it was to them an important question. The doctrine of eternal life is not so fully unfolded in the Old Testament scriptures, but it is there. It is in the New Testament, however, that it is set forth in its fullness. The words "everlasting" and "eternal" mean the same thing. In the King James version of the New Testament both words are used as translations of the same word. There is no reason for the use of one word in one place, and of the other word in another place.

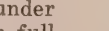
What is the meaning of everlasting or eternal life? It means life under the highest and best conditions, the life for which God made us, the life of blessedness in His holy presence in heaven and of communion with Him. Jesus says: "This is eternal life that they might know thee the only true God and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent." The expression eternal life is used in contrast with eternal death, which is the death that never dies, the state of the lost souls in perdition. Life with God is the only true life, the only blessed life. God made us in His own image, for association with Himself and with heavenly beings. Without God our life is not complete, it cannot be unfolded into the character that God designed for us. But with God, under His government, subject to His will, in full harmony with His high purposes, we attain our true destiny and live in holiness and blessedness unto all eternity. Eternal death is death to God, death to good, a loss of true life, and consequently endless misery. Eternal life is life to God, life to good, the attainment of true life, and consequently endless happiness.

Everlasting life, as the word implies, belongs to eternity, but it has its beginning in this present time. Jesus says: "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life." "He that believeth on me hath everlasting life." The verb in these verses is in the present tense. Eternal life is of the present therefore and not of the future only.

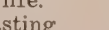
We do not have eternal life in our natural state. In our natural state we are dead in trespasses and sins. Christ told Nicodemus that it was necessary for him to be born again before he could enter the kingdom of God. We can come into possession of eternal life only by the regenerating power of God, and as pure gift. "The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

The condition upon which we gain eternal life is by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and the ground of our assurance of eternal life. Men of all ages have aspired after higher and holier things. The human mind at its best is not satisfied with earthly conditions. We crave a blessed immortality. Is this not a hint of something lost and of something to be gained? If we have been made right, and we believe we have, our instincts and aspirations which we have by creation are a revelation of the good purpose of our Creator. For every desire and necessity of our natural being God has provided a satisfaction. Is this not strong reason for believing that in like manner He has provided satisfaction for every desire and aspiration of our spiritual being?

God's word is emphatic in its assurances of everlasting life. Many passages of scripture give us an infallible ground of certainty that our hope of eternal life is not an empty dream, but will have a glorious fulfilment. Our faith responds to God's words and our hearts are satisfied. Just as food satisfies the hunger of our bodies and gives us comfort, so God's word satisfies the hunger of our hearts and gives us spiritual comfort, and we say with assurance, "I believe in the life everlasting."



The Luther League badge attracts attention. A large number of inquiries have lately been received from outside sources seeking information regarding the Luther League badge. We are asked where we got it; we are asked what it means, and how we came to adopt such a beautiful emblem for our League. It is worth while knowing that others than ourselves admire the beauty and the depth of meaning in Luther's coat of arms.



Form the habit of looking at tomorrow as if you were the master of tomorrow, and not its slave, says Edward Everett Hale. Your use of today is the means by which you master tomorrow.

Luther League of Oregon-Washington

Eighth Convention at Vancouver, July 18-19

BY ELSA M. WEISSMILLER.

THE eighth convention of the Oregon-Washington Luther League was held at Vancouver, Wash., July 18 and 19, 1915. It was opened with the convention sermon, delivered by Rev. W. I. Eck, of Vancouver.

A Model Luther League meeting was conducted, with Miss Caroline Albers, of Chehalis, and W. S. T. Derr, of Vancouver, Wash., as leaders, and Miss Lillian Herschman as pianist. This was followed by a short address by Rev. J. A. Leas, of Portland, and one by Rev. Carl F. Knoll, of Chehalis.

The opening vesper services were conducted by Rev. J. A. Leas, of Portland. The sermon was delivered by Rev. Carl F. Knoll. His theme was "The First Young Peoples' Society in the Bible," based on a portion of the third chapter of Daniel. Announcement of the committees by the president and closing evening services concluded the first day's session.

The business meeting, held Monday afternoon, was opened with a hymn, followed by prayer by Miss Celeste Albin, of Portland, Ore. After the opening remarks by President W. S. T. Derr, the report of the credential committee, Miss Ruth Claasen chairman, was read and approved. Thirty-eight delegates were present and six pastors.

The president's report was then read and accepted. The vice-president, Rev. Drahn, spoke of the convention of the Columbia Central at Portland, and Mr. Derr gave a report of the meeting of the Puget Sound League held in Seattle last fall.

The report of the treasurer, Miss Larson, was read and accepted. She reported $3.15 on hand.

A letter of greeting from Rev. Luther Kuhns was read and the secretary instructed to acknowledge same.

The officers elected are: President, W. S. T. Derr, of Vancouver, Wash.; secretary, Miss Elsa Weissmiller, of Seattle, Wash.; treasurer, Miss Esther Larson, of Astoria, Ore.

Each central was instructed to forward $2 for each local society connected therewith, to the treasurer of the Oregon-Washington. Article 11 of the constitution was ordered enforced and the treasurer directed to use all her efforts possible to collect $2 due from each local society.

It was stated by the president, in reporting action of conference of the representatives of the various local societies belonging to both the Columbia Central and Puget Sound Central, that we work on a twenty cents per capita basis, ten cents to go to the respective centrals, six cents to the National Luther League, and four cents to the Oregon-Washington—all to be collected through the treasurer of the two centrals. No formal action was taken by the convention.

The following paper was then read: "City Federations," written by Mr. Engeset, of Everett, read by Miss Johnson, of The Dalles, Ore. This paper was interesting to the local workers and was well received.

A splendid paper on "Efficiency" was presented by Miss Esther Larson, of Astoria.

Efficiency is that power in a workman which enables him to turn out good work. It is a quality essential in all lines of (work) activity that count for something in this world. The hue and cry of today is for trained workers—specialists. Competition is so keen, life is so earnest, time is so short, that only our best efforts along a given line will avail.

In order to become efficient along a given line, one must be willing to learn. There is a price to pay. The most direct way to the top of a mountain is the steepest and most difficult to climb. But if the goal is on that mountain top, the shortest road, the most difficult one, even if it has to be made step by step, is worth while.

We have spoken of the necessity of efficiency in the trades, in business and in the professions. There is another calling that comes to every soul—that of being servants of Jesus Christ. St. Paul ranked high in that service. His motto seems to have been: "Jesus Christ: Whose I am and Whom I serve."

Never has the call come so (urgent) pleadingly and never has the cause, Christ's cause, been so urgent as today. There is so much work to be done in the vineyard! The struggle for existence has become so desperately keen, the quest for pleasure so great, and the greed for money so enormous that the thoughts of God and His Kingdom find little or no place in the lives of men. Religion has become a secondary matter. The things pertaining to the flesh and the world first; and things spiritual and eternal, last. This is worse than putting the cart before the horse. The issues at stake are too great and the results too far reaching for such a course of procedure.

Therefore, study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly divining the word of truth.

A paper on "Effective Work in Lutheran Rural Communities," written by Mr. Svinth, of Roy, Wash., was read by Miss Lena Kunzelman, of Vancouver, B. C.

A paper on "Loyalty" was read by Miss Elsa Weissmiller, of Seattle, Wash.

Loyalty has been defined as being the quality or state of being loyal—devoted allegiance to a government or chief; hearty service in friendship or love or to a cause. It means more than allegiance. A patriotic American takes, on occasion, an oath of allegiance to the Government, but his loyalty will lead him to do more than mere allegiance could demand. And so it is in regard to loyalty to our League.

We are not truly loyal to it unless we do more than pledge allegiance. We must be willing to work for its good, make sacrifices if need be, and do all in our power to make our League successful and win others to Christ.

Being loyal to the League means living through the week what we profess on Sunday, for it is by our everyday life and actions that those outside of the Church are judging us. We are worse than those who make no profession of religion when we so fervently confess Christ on the Sabbath and then forget during the week to be patient, charitable, honest and kind. Christ has commanded us to be living epistles and the world will surely read us and be repelled instead of attracted to the Church if we do not practice what we profess.

Being loyal means giving up some pleasure or gratification if it is in conflict with our duties as loyal League members—if it is taking us away from our League instead of bringing us into closer fellowship with Christ. Surely there are enough wholesome pleasures connected with our young people's meetings. We must not forget the social side of the work and it may be that it is only through the social element that we can interest some of our young people. But we must not stop there, we must use this merely as a means to the end of bringing them all into the Kingdom of Christ.

From all sides—from young people's societies of other churches as well as from our own Leagues—comes the complaint that it is a few who must bear the brunt of the work. But did you ever think of this side of the question? That we are to consider the privilege and joy of service as well as the responsibilities? We will never win others to work for Christ if we do our work grudgingly. They will not be attracted if we are carrying on the work of the League in a half-hearted way, coming to the meetings and conducting the work simply because we feel that it is necessary. Can we not do it more enthusiastically, with joyful, happy hearts so that all may know that we are really doing it because the love of Christ constrains us?

This organization of the Church, by the Church, and for the Church, means much to us and we should prove this by being loyal to her in every way. Ours is a great work and we should be proud of the fact that we are able to have a part in it. May we not try as individual members and as Leagues to work as we have never worked before in Christ's kingdom? Surely we, as a body of united consecrated Lutheran young people, should be able to accomplish much in the way of bringing others into Christ's kingdom if we will trust and faint not.

Reports of the extension committee and the press committee were given by Mr. C. R. Studer and Miss Celeste Albin, respectively, both of which were accepted.

The matter of the next convention was left in the hands of the executive committee.

The opening evening service was conducted by Rev. C. F. Knoll and the address of the evening given by Rev. W. C. Drahn, of LaGrande, Ore. The following standing committees were appointed: Credential committee—Chairman, Anna Lindblad, 2131 Hoyt street, Everett, Wash.; Roy C. Bell, 916 North Forty-ninth street, Seattle, Wash.; Hedvig Edlund, 717 Franklin avenue, Astoria, Ore. Extension committee—Chairman, C. R. Studer, Vancouver, Wash.; Lena Kunzelman, Vancouver, B. C.; Mathilda Mathiesen, Portland, Ore.; Florence Johnson, The Dalles, Ore.; Mabel Johnson, Bellingham, Wash. Press committee—H. E. Hazelgreen, 4213 Alki avenue, Seattle, Wash.; Miss Esther Nyland, Astoria, Ore.; Miss Caroline Albers, Chehalis, Wash; Harold Almgren, 2502 North Puget Sound avenue, Tacoma, Wash.; Mrs. W. C. Drahn, LaGrande, Ore.

After this service the convention adjourned to the parlors of the church, where delicious refreshments were served, special music rendered and a general good time enjoyed by all.

The convention closed with the feeling on the part of all who attended that it had been good to be there and that they had received much good from it.

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OCTOBER

Reformation month and the Home Mission and Church Extension problems are again confronting us. What shall this mean to the great Church of the Reformation? Simply a name? Simply past deeds, the history of the fathers? This glorious season, in which many Harvest Home services and Festivals are held, Rally Day conducted, Holy Communion celebrated, Catechetical Classes organized, and many other organizations revived and set into motion, should draw us closer to the altar of the Lord, and to His courts of praise. Reformation in heart and life, in Church, and school, in the province, the state, the nation, in all that makes for the betterment of mankind. "The harvest is past, the summer is ended." What is our result?—Selected.

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The officer is the best executive who is able to get other men to do the work. It will not do to spend one's time in hopeless effort. Multiply your strength. It may be ten times over by dividing responsibility. Plan new lines of effort; use every opportunity; keep persistently at it. In every important work enlist as many workers as possible and throw responsibility upon them.

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Do not forget that of all the tonics you have ever heard of a day in bed is one of the best. Rest for the back, rest for the limbs, rest for the brain, and, on a light diet, rest for the digestive apparatus. Your body will never be so grateful to you for any kind attention so much as for a day in bed.—Exchange.

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"A drop of water is minute indeed, compared with the waters of the world, and yet the length of a man's life is smaller when compared to unending eternity."

Luther League Topics

Twenty-third Week
after Trinity. November 7, 1915.

"THE LIFE EVERLASTING"

(Article III)

Luke 10:21-28.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

Monday, November 1—Matt. 19:16-22.
Tuesday, November 2—Mark 10:28-31.
Wednesday, November 3—John 3:14-17.
Thursday, November 4—John 5:24-29.
Friday, November 5—I John 5:11-13.
Saturday, November 6—John 3:16.

HINTS FOR LEADERS.

Violin solo. Hymn 13. Hymn 107. Psalm 95. Gloria Patri. Soprano solo, "Callest Thou Thus, O Master," Mietzke. Recite the Creed in unison, all standing. Prayer by the pastor.

Scripture lesson, Luke 10:21-28. Piano solo. Address by leader. Hymn 165.

Paper (ten minutes), "Thoughts on Immortality." Recitation, "One Sweetly Solemn Thought," Cary. Hymn 113. Address, superintendent of Sunday school (ten minutes). Hymn 118.

Announcements. Hymn 243. Lord's Prayer. Doxology. Benediction.

Reviewed by Rev. J. Ernest Zimmerman.

In our study of the Creed we have now come to the last portion of the third article. This clause supplies the goal or prize for those who sincerely believe the foregoing part of the Creed.

There are several words found frequently in the Scriptures which the ungodly man in all generations has been trying to eliminate from the Word of God and from his own mind. They are eternity, eternal punishment and hell. They do not object to the "life eternal" if they could only make themselves believe that they are destined to enter into that life; but knowing that unless they accept Christ as their Redeemer and follow Him, which they are unwilling to do, they will never see that Eternal Home, they deny the existence of a "life everlasting," eternal punishment and hell.

To show how far some men will go in this denial of a future state and how they will strive to deceive themselves, nearly three years ago the followers of Pastor Russel held a convention in Washington, D. C. The paper published by the Russelites, in giving an account of the convention, had as a headline, in large bold type, on the first page, these words: "Hell officially abolished by the Washington Convention." It seems almost impossible that any organization of men, claiming intelligence, could be brought to make such a presumptuous statement. But it shows how anxious men are to make themselves believe that there is no place of future punishment where the ungodly shall suffer throughout eternity. They will even deny a future state in order to quiet their own consciences. But their denial does not destroy the existence of such a place or state.

Man is a religious being and religion, be it false or the true religion, leads the believer to think of a future state. No tribe in darkest heathendom has ever been found that did not worship something and that did not believe in a future state beyond this life. Great uncertainty exists in the heathen mind as to the nature of the future life, but all believe that physical death does not end everything. The Christian religion gives men the best conception of the life everlasting. It not only declares that there is a future life of reward and punishment, but it also furnishes us with a plan whereby we may attain a life everlasting of joy and peace and declares that a failure on our part to comply with the conditions will bring a life everlasting of pain and suffering.

We cannot estimate the influence which the thought of eternity has upon the hearts of men. When there were several attempts made upon Luther to draw him back again to the Romish side, one proposed a sum of money to be offered him. "No, that will not do," said another; "that German beast cares not for money, nor any temporal thing whatsoever," and so they ceased any further tampering that way. Luther had his eyes fixed upon the "life eternal" and was laying up treasures for that life. Like resolution we find in those forty martyrs under the persecution of Licinius the Emperor, A. D. 300. When Agricolaus, his chief governor and one of the devil's prime agents, set upon them by several ways to renounce Christ and at last tempted them with money and preferments, they cried out with one consent, "O eternity, eternity! give money that may last forever, and glory that may never fade away."

Not only has the thought of the endless ages of life everlasting been a stay to the martyrs, but it is a great strength giving power to every follower of Jesus Christ. How often amid the trials of life we come to the point where we are ready to give up! Everything seems dark and gloomy. Then the Spirit comes and whispers in our ear, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee the crown of life." In our Leagues we frequently find things that discourage. No doubt every member of the League has at some time in life, when discouraged, asked himself the question, "What

The Luther League Topics, complete lessons (of which the above are outlines and reviews), in 32-page pamphlet, covering three months, can be supplied at rates given on page 28 by LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW, Box 876, New York, N. Y.

is the use in trying?" The answer is Christ and life everlasting. Compare our few short years of trial with eternity, and is not every effort worth while? An eminent minister, after being silent in company a consirerable time and being asked the reason, signified that the powers of his mind had been solemnly absorbed with the thought of everlasting happiness. "O, my friends," said he, with an energy that surprised all present, "consider what it is to be forever with the Lord—forever, forever, forever."

Let every member of the Luther League think more of eternity. In our conduct toward our fellowmen, in the work of our Church, in our work in the League, let us ever keep in mind the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. The more fully we realize that we are only sojourners here and that we are destined to a life everlasting, the more active we will be in the service of Him who has gone to prepare a place for us.

Twenty-fourth Week after Trinity. November 14, 1915.

"HOLDING FORTH THE WORD OF LIFE"

Phil. 2:12-18.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

Monday, November 8—John 1:1-14.
Tuesday, November 9—I John 1:1-10.
Wednesday, November 10—John 8:12-20.
Thursday, November 11—Isaiah 2:1-5.
Friday, November 12—John 3:14-21.
Saturday, November 13—Matt. 5:14-19.

HINTS FOR LEADERS.

Voluntary. Hymn 51 (standing). Read responsively Psalm 100 (standing). Gloria Patri (standing).

Leader announce topic, "Holding Forth the Word of Life"; read Phil. 2:12-18, and give three-minute talk on topic.

Hymn 224. Recitation.

MEDITATION.

God so loved the world! Can'st thou believe it?
Then who can look into these ripened fields
And live apostate? This thought doth give me pause.
Ten million souls do grope beyond the sea;
And each is worth a world; each soul a world;
How many worlds, then, tremble in the scales
Of Justice while we with mercy wait?
O Love! O Love! That hath no broken wing!
Fly across the sea! Fly across the sea!
Who can chain the power of this Holy Word,
Or stem the tide of love from it flowing;
It overleaps the bounds of circumstance,
Of time and space, and what's dearer still to man—
Old tradition and environments,
And heredity far more deeply grained;
In cave, cottage or golden palaces
Or 'mid vice and gilded crimes, it lives
As a white plumed bird, 'mid dust and ashes,
Still unsullied and untarnished.

—John Fielding Crigier.

Prayer.

Short talks by three Leaguers on: (1) The Word of Life Held—Why? (2) The Word of Life Held—Where? (3) The Word of Life Held—By Whom?

Hymn 216. Sentence prayers. Remarks by pastor. Hymn 225. Announcements. Lord's Prayer.

We find in the epistles of Paul many valuable Christian admonitions. The portion of one of his epistles upon which our topic is based contains several of them. But we find them so arranged and entwined that they lead up to the one great thought, "Holding Forth the Word of Life."

The apostle tells the Philippians to be zealous in the working out their souls' salvation not only in his presence but also in his absence. Yea, he urges them to be more zealous when he is absent from them. Their zeal, however, should embody a confidence and trust in God, as the one who worketh in us both to do and to will. Their service should not be such that it savors the spirit of contention and envy, but as children of God they should be lights shining in a darkened and corrupt world. Thereby they would exemplify the truth and hold forth the word of life. This would bring honor and joy to him, being assured of that his labor had borne fruit. If he, by reason of their faith and service, should be called upon to sacrifice himself he would rejoice. Holding forth the word of life by them would bring joy to him and to themselves.

How do we hold forth the word of life?

By a manifest interest in our souls' salvation. When the Word of God lays hold of the heart of man, one of the first holy desires awakened in him is the desire to be saved. This desire should express itself in our lives. Therefore the apostle says: Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. The spirit of the word of life seeks to express itself in our solicitation for our eternal welfare. Let there be serious thinking and meditation about your relation to God.

In this soul interest and solicitation there should be constancy and perseverance. Some people are interested in their souls' welfare while they are in the presence of the pastor, others are enthusiastic while an arousing revival takes place in the community. Paul admonished the Philippians to be more zealous in his absence than what they had been in his presence. True Christian activity is brought about by the constantly working power of the word of life, and in consequence of that the holding forth of the living truth cannot be of a momentary and fleeting nature.

By manifest confidence and trust in God we hold forth the word of life. Our temporal welfare is dependent upon God's gracious will, and so is our spiritual well-being. In striving for that which pertains to our spiritual prosperity our zeal should not be such that it is void of the implicit confidence in God. We are to work with fear and trembling, but yet not without that trust in God which evinces our feeling of dependence on Him. We have this trust in

God beautifully set forth in our collect of peace in the following words: "O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants . . ." When Luther at Worms so powerfully testified to the world concerning the word of life, he did not only in so many words bear witness concerning the truth, but also by his apparent trust in God. Let us hold forth the word of life, showing that we actually believe the following truth: "He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."

By fostering contentment and brotherly love. It soon became evident what the fruits of sin were when Cain through discontentment, hatred and envy slew his brother Abel. We, as the children of God born again by the word of life and love, seek to establish ourselves in the fellowship of Christ by avoiding that which is the fruit of sin and by setting forth that which is the fruit of the Holy Spirit operating through the word of life. Murmurings and disputings are not the fruits of the word of life; therefore, in order to hold forth the influence of this word, these must be avoided and contentment, love and peace be manifested. The Christian graces coming forth in our lives make evident the transforming influence of the word of life. Let us allow this influence to bring about in our conduct and conversation that which will make us "blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation."

The result of our holding forth the word of life. It brings joy and honor to those who have been instrumental in inculcating the truth in our hearts. They rejoice to see that the gospel is accepted and that it is received in such a manner that it becomes exemplified in the life of the recipient. St. John says in the third epistle: I have no greater joy than to hear my children walk in the truth. St. Paul says that he would consider it an honor to him and a proof that his calling was not in vain if the readers of his epistle would follow his teachings and exalt the word of life by a life in conformity to it. He would rejoice and together with them be glad in the midst of whatever sacrifice or affliction that he might meet with. Our young people, by heeding the words of the apostle, could also bring joy to many in our midst. When the youth of our Church become living witnesses of the living word there would be many rejoicing. The Christian parents and teachers would rejoice, their pastor and their church would rejoice, yea, the Church at large would rejoice. Will the Luther Leaguers by their conduct and work so shine that this glory and joy will be realized by our dearly beloved Lutheran Church?

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Twenty-fifth Week after Trinity. November 21, 1915.

PRAYER AS A FACTOR IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

I Tim. 2:1-2.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

Monday, November 15—Gen. 18:22-33.
Tuesday, November 16—Josh. 7:6-13.
Wednesday, November 17—II Chron. 6:12-42.
Thursday, November 18—II Chron. 7:12-18.
Friday, November 19—Daniel 9:3-19.
Saturday, November 20—II Kings 19:15-19.

HINTS FOR LEADERS.

Hymn, "God Bless Our Native Land, Firm May She Ever Stand." Psalm 46, read responsively. Gloria Patri. Scripture, I Tim. 2:1-2, read by youngest Leaguer present. Prayer by leader. Short talk by leader, summarizing points in Luther League Topics and REVIEW. Quartet, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."

Three-minute discussions on "Why Is Prayer an Important Factor in Public Affairs?" "Should Prayer Be Offered in Our Public Schools?" "Should Our National and Public Officials Be 'Prayer Offering' Men?" Discuss these subjects pro and con.

Scripture references to be read and commented on by the younger members. I Thes. 3:7-13; Ex. 20:24; II Chron. 7:14-16; Isa. 56:7; Matt. 18:19-20; Luke 11:1-4.

Remarks by pastor and announcements. Hymn, "America." Lord's Prayer. Benediction.

Topic reviewed by Rev. Paul W. Koller.

This topic, as all of us understand, is given us on this Sunday because we are in Thanksgiving week. At this time, as perhaps at no other during the year, the hearts and minds of our American people turn to God as the author of their blessings, and they seek His guidance in the affairs of the nation. A study of this lesson should increase our sense of God's power and turn us to Him in earnest petition.

There are several things to be observed in considering our topic.

I. The Close Relation of God and Governments.

There is an intimate relation between those who are in places of authority and the great Ruler of all the earth. They are under-rulers, God's representatives in the management of nations. This is the teaching of scripture, surprising as it may be to some of us who dwell in a republic. Christianity, while it teaches that man has certain inalienable rights, also upholds the authority of government lest anarchy result. Paul writes that men should pray for the king, with Nero on the throne. God is interested in the civil government and desires that it shall be for the benefit of humanity. The best Presidents we have ever had felt this to be true and so ordered their lives. Lincoln speaks of it as he leaves his friends and neighbors to go to Washington as the

President of these United States. It must be true if God is in the affairs of men. We of this day in America need this teaching, for there is a growing disrespect for all law and authority.

II. The Duty of Intercession.

If what has been said is true, then it is the duty of every true citizen to go to God in behalf of those in authority, both with prayers and thanksgiving. We as a nation certainly have reason to thank God for the wise way in which the government has managed the affairs of our country. These have been trying days, and the fact that we are at peace is due in no small measure to our President's calm wisdom. We need also to pray most earnestly that all who are in authority may have the fear of God in their hearts and be guided by His will. In ancient times there was in every nation a priestly class whose duty it was to bring the affairs of the nation to God. In the Christian economy that priestly function belongs to the people. It is the duty and privilege of the Christians in every nation to exercise this priestly function.

III. The Result.

There is no question but that great good will come if the Christian people of our land pray for God's will to prevail in public affairs and for blessings to rest upon those who govern.

This has always been the history of God in relation to His people. When the children of Israel prayed to God He heard them and answered their petitions. We have only to read the Old Testament to see how willing God is to listen to the prayers of His people. We can be sure that God has not changed and if we pray for His hand and guidance in our public affairs He will hear us. Let us come to Him with our earnest prayers, for surely we need His help. Another result of our prayers and intercessions will be the blessing that comes to us from the very act of our drawing near to Him. If an individual prays earnestly to God and comes to Him with thanksgiving that person is uplifted by the very fact of putting himself in closer relationship with God. The same thing is true of a nation. America will be a better nation if on Thanksgiving Day our people offer petitions and true thanksgiving to God.

QUESTIONS.

1. Do you think that our public affairs need to be prayed about?
2. Are we a Christian nation?
3. Who really govern in America?
4. What kind of prayers should we offer?
5. What have we to be thankful for?

CALIFORNIA DISTRICT LEAGUE

THE program was so arranged as to bring together a great many Luther Leaguers from the northern part of the State, and in reality this was a convention of the Pacific Coast Luther Leagues.

Addresses were made as follows: "Value of a Luther League to the Church," by Rev. Emil Meyer, San Jose; "What the Luther League Demands of the Leaguer," by Rev. John R. Braeuer, Ph.D., San Francisco, and the following symposium—"Ways and Means for an Effective League."

1. "Awakening Interest," by Miss A. Stelling, San Francisco.
2. "Increasing Attendance," by T. J. Jensen, Oakland.
3. "Cultivating the Social," by O. W. Weibel, Berkeley.
4. "Developing the Intellectual," by Prof. P. W. H. Frederick, Seattle.
5. "Attaining the Spiritual," by Rev. N. P. Anseen, Oakland.

The evening addresses were delivered by Dr. J. C. Kunzman, of Philadelphia, on the topic, "Witnesses unto the World," and an address on the subject, "The Fourth Centenary of the Protestant Reformation," by Rev. Prof. V. G. A. Tressler, D. D., of the Hamma Divinity School, Springfield, Ohio. The new Field Secretary of the Augustana Synod, the Rev. Carl J. Soedergen was present with his wife. The officers for the past year were all re-elected and are as follows: Mr. Charles L. Trabert, of Berkeley, president; Rev. J. E. Hoick, San Jose, corresponding secretary; Luther Meyer, recording secretary; Myron Hestorff, Salinas, treasurer.

Resolutions were adopted as follows:

Resolved (1)—That in view of the unexcelled opportunities afforded at the Panama Pacific Exposition for the public presentation of the interests of our Lutheran Church, we recommend that Saturday, October 30, be set aside as Reformation Day, to be observed with a special program at the Exposition, also by a banquet to which all branches of the Lutheran Church shall be invited to participate, also that the officers of this League be empowered to take the initiative to secure the cooperation of all synodical bodies in commemoration of the occasion.

Resolved (2)—That in view of the extensive preparations being made for the celebration of the Four Hundredth Anniversary of the Reformation in 1917, we urge all our young people's societies faithfully to pursue the reading courses suggested by the general committee, to the end that there may be a well informed, loyal Lutheran constituency.

Resolved (3)—That in view of the beneficial results which accrue from cooperative efforts, we urgently request all Lutheran young people's societies of Central California to identify themselves with our District Luther League.

The Junior Luther League

REV. ARTHUR T. MICHLER, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

A Definite Aim

In our League work among the boys and girls we should always keep in mind a definite purpose. If we simply aim at random, our powder and shot will be wasted and nothing will be hit. As we meet our Juniors each week our program should be so arranged as to bring our idea of definiteness into action. And in a word, this should be the complete development of the whole personality within the Church. We ought, then, to hold up before our Leaguers some definite mottoes for which they should stand. And among the first should be regular attendance in the League, Bible School and Church. In other words our boys and girls should be encouraged to be loyal, not only to the League, but to the Bible School and especially the Church services.

The average League member will be regular at both the League and the Bible School. But unless he has parents faithful to the Church, he will do largely as he pleases with respect to religious worship. The result is that they do not learn to worship. They do not learn how to listen to the reading of the Scriptures or to the sermon. Surely this quality is a desirable one, especially in the life of an earnest Christian. As one of the most fundamental of aims, encourage your Leaguers to attend regularly the services of the Church as well as the League and Bible School. Let regular Church and Bible School attendance be one of the first definite marks at which to hit.

Our Membership

With the coming of this pleasant and delightful fall weather, the spirit of work again animates us. Shall we not use some of this incentive to increase our membership? How many Leagues number within their membership every boy and girl attending the Bible School? Doubtless very few, if any. Here, then, is an opportunity for work.

Then, too, there may be outside friends of the boys and girls who would like to join. Encourage them to come in. The League work will help them, and if they attend no Church or Bible School, they will soon become identified with your school and Church. Work, then, to make your League grow. Get enthusiastic about it and its possibilities and you will enthuse others. It is this enthusiastic personal work that causes the League to grow and become more interesting. Let all, then, go to work to increase the membership.

League Notes

There are many Leagues that are successful, but their methods differ. The REVIEW would like to hear from our Leagues concerning some of their activities. If what you are doing interests, holds, and helps your boys and girls, write a brief account of it and send it to the editor of this department.

It is this interchange of practical activities which is stimulating and suggestive. To illustrate, here is a Boys' League or a Girls' League that has enjoyed a successful social gathering. A brief account of what you did at the social to make it so successful and pleasant is what helps other Leagues elsewhere in the country. Let us hear from you concerning what you are doing.

Topics for November

November 7—"Paul in Thessalonica and Berea." Acts 17:1-15.
November 14—Missionary Program—Suggested Topic. "Our Gratitude and Its Result."
November 21—"Paul Preaches on Mars Hill." Acts 17:16-34.

NOVEMBER 7.

By Rev. P. George Sieger.

In the year 51, while Paul was on his second missionary journey accompanied by Silas, his course led him along the shores of the Mediterranean Sea through the country known in history as Macedonia, where he came to one of the capital cities called Thessalonica. Here Paul founded a church. It was the same congregation to which some time later he wrote a letter, known in the New Testament as the Epistle to the Thessalonians. Thessalonica was a place where many Jews dwelled and who had a synagogue in which they worshipped. Paul went to this synagogue three Sabbath days in succession, and reasoned with the people that the Messiah, who they were looking for, had already come; that He was Jesus the Christ, and urged them to accept Him as their Saviour. Some of the Jews believed, as well as a large number of Greeks and some prominent women. These together formed the Christian congregation which Paul established. But there were other Jews who did not accept Paul's teaching about Christ and who formed an opposition party into which they received men who had a bad reputation in the city. This party started a great uproar, crying out that Paul and Silas were turning the world upside down, and demanded that they be dealt with harshly. They found out that Paul and Silas were lodging with a man called Jason. Thither they hastened and caused trouble. The Christian converts and friends thereupon sent Paul and Silas away by night to a town called Berea,

not far distant and somewhat away from the main road of travel, that they might be safe.

The people of Berea were a much better class socially and otherwise. Many of them were also Jews who had a synagogue in which they worshipped. Hither Paul and Silas resorted and met many people assembled, some of them being Greeks. And here they explained the Scriptures and preached Christ unto them. The people also searched the Scriptures for themselves, and many of them believed in Christ and became Christians. But no sooner had the news of this fact reached Thessalonica, than the old enemies of Paul and Silas immediately followed them and began to stir up the people and again caused much trouble. The believers in Christ therefore took Paul away and brought him as far as Athens, while Silas and Timotheus, another co-worker, tarried behind. But Paul insisted that they should follow him, which after a while they did.

Scripture References—Luke 4:16-32, Rom. 1:16, John 5:39, Matt. 10:23, Acts 2:12, Matt. 5:16.

Main Lesson—Paul was a true Christian, bent on proclaiming Christ to those who were not saved. Paul was a church-going man and went to the Synagogue on the Sabbath Day wherever he found one on his journeys. There he always had an opportunity to do good. Paul was a God-fearing man and not afraid to do his full duty. He told the story of Jesus Christ and his own experience, and God blessed his work with many converts to the Christian faith. Paul was a genuine missionary, and God took care of him no matter where he went to preach the Gospel. When Satan stirred up the unbelievers to persecute him and destroy him, God protected him and guided him safely to new fields of labor, where he continued as before.

Practical Lessons—When Paul became a Christian he asked God, "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" From that time on he never lacked places or opportunities to do good. And more than that, he always found people willing and ready to become followers of Christ. The Epistles of the New Testament are letters to many churches which were the fruits of his labors. Whenever we are willing to serve Christ, we can find opportunities to do so. The enmity and persecution of unbelievers is usually a proof that we are doing something for Christ. Satan don't need to bother about people who won't disturb him by doing nothing.

Suggestions—Can we think of some place where the Gospel has not been preached? Will we go and do as Paul did? And if we cannot go ourselves, will we send some missionaries who will go in our place? Will we be afraid of those who are not Christians? Will we waste our time fighting them, or will we "shake off the dust of our feet against them"? Will we keep on doing good as Paul did?

Suggested Topics for Essay—1. Places and people who have not yet heard the Gospel. 2. How we organize a new congregation. 3. The benefit and satisfaction of having Christian companions and friends.

November 14.

Use the regular League program. The following hymns can be used: "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," "Who Is on the Lord's Side?" "Beautiful Saviour, King of Creation." Scripture reading can be I Sam. 2:1-10. At the proper place for the topic the following can be used:

Recitation, "Thanksgiving," the first stanza of which is to be recited by the boy or girl leader, while the other stanzas are to be recited by three other officers of the League.

Thanksgiving

Oh! praise the Lord of grace and power,
O! offer thanks before His throne,
Whose goodness all does overshower,
Yea! He be praised, and He alone!
Let heav'n and earth with praises ring!
O! let us all His praises sing!

Praise thou the Lord who thee created,
Who even now doth thee preserve,
Who, though thy Lord, hath on thee waited;
Dost thou His loving care deserve?
Pray! is it aught but heav'nly grace,
Bestowed on thee and all thy race?

The Lord again hath amply yielded
What He, by right, might well retain,—
For, who by Him unaided buildeth,
Without His blessing builds in vain.
Thou, Lord! unworthiness dost bless,—
O! pardon my unthankfulness!

Behold my heart, by Satan's sowing,
Infected with corruption's seed,
Upon its soil now richly growing
Ingratitude,—a sinful weed.
O Lord! Thy grace to me impart,
And fill with thanks my thankless heart!

—Lutheran Standard.

Essay—"God's Great Gift."
Recitation of Psalm III.
Reading—"Am I Really Grateful?"

Am I Really Grateful?

By Arthur T. Michler.

Some time ago my parents told me about the time when I was baptized. They said it took place in the church, in connection with the regular church service, and that the occasion made a deep impression upon them. They then told me of the real significance of baptism; when for the first time I realized that I belonged to God, through the work of His Son. This relation I never thought about before, but since that talk with my parents I have thought much about it. In fact I never thought much about God as my Father. Of course I believed in God, always did, and I pray to Him every day. But somehow I never thought of Him as a Father and that I was His child just as really and truly as I am of my earthly parents. This idea has made me think a good deal since then, and often when I think of my baptism and what it did for me, I often wonder whether I am as thankful as I ought to be. Sometimes I feel as though I am very selfish and forgetful. And I suppose it is true, because I love to play and do so many other things, so that I do not think as much about these things as I ought to. However, since my parents told me that through my baptism I am saved by Jesus Christ, I do think I ought to feel just as thankful as possible. Suppose I was not baptized and had not heard of Jesus Christ as my Saviour, just as it happens to be in heathen lands, I would not have the happiness and hope that this thought brings. The more I think about it, the more grateful I ought to be. And this spirit of thankfulness I am going to try to have with me all the time.

Reading—"What Am I Doing?"

What Am I Doing?

By Arthur T. Michler.

When I think of all the things I have heard about missionaries and how hard they work to

make the poor heathen understand something about Jesus and His salvation, I wonder whether I would be willing to work just as hard for Christ. Possibly I would if I were asked. But since I am not old enough to go abroad as a missionary, I guess there is something I can do for the heathen if I want to do it. But if you ask me what I am doing now to show my gratitude to Christ for His salvation and love to me, I would have to say—nothing in particular. Of course I come to the League, attend the Bible school and sometimes the church. I read the Bible and pray every day and try to be true and honest, but I am not doing anything definite to show my gratitude in a real missionary way.

In thinking it over I believe I ought to pray for the missionaries and their work. This I can do and it is a wonder that I have not thought of this more frequently. Then I can give some of my earnings to missions. This I can do and I believe I ought to. Some of the neighbors ask me to run errands for them for which I am given a little money. Sometimes I work after school and on Saturdays, and out of my earnings I can lay aside some for missions. I can put it in the League offering for missions and then feel it will go to help the work for which I have been praying. I believe this is a good plan, so I will do it.

Then I can read about the great missionary work of the Church. It is interesting reading and at times quite exciting. When I heard about the life of Livingstone in Africa, I wanted to read the book. I did so and found it a great story. I have been a little careless about such reading lately, but since it is so interesting and important I will begin again. This will make of me and all who will do it, a useful and active Christian, such as every one of us ought to be.

The superintendent can add here whatever other material is desired and make the necessary remarks.

NOVEMBER 21.

By Jane M. Truxall.

The Story Told—Paul and Barnabas had made a missionary journey through Asia Minor, preaching the Gospel and establishing churches. Some time after their return to Jerusalem Paul took Silas and went on a second journey through this country to visit these new Christians to see how they were getting along.

By and by they came to a place called Thessalonica, where Paul preached and many people believed; but some Jews who were envious stirred up the people, and because of the mob Paul and his companions were obliged to leave the city. They then went to Berea, but the Jews followed them there and then Paul went to Athens to await the coming of Silas and Timothy, who had remained at Berea.

While he waited there he walked about the city and saw that the whole city was full of idols. This made him very sorry, so he preached about Christ in the market places and in the synagogue. Now some of the people of Athens were very learned, and they wondered what this new strange religion was that Paul was preaching about, so they seized him and took him up to the top of Mars Hill and asked him to tell them what it all meant. Then Paul stood and began to preach to them, and he said: "Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are far too superstitious; for as I passed by and beheld your gods, I found an altar with this inscription: To the Unknown God; whom, therefore, you ignorantly worship. Him I declare unto you," and then he told them all about the Lord Jehovah, who made the world and all the nations of the world, and how He sent His Son to be the Saviour of the world, and said that He, the Lord, had appointed a day in which He will judge the world and through His Son all men should be raised from the dead. When the men of Athens heard what Paul said about the resurrection from the dead some mocked and some said "We will hear thee again of this matter."

Scripture References—Altar, Gen. 8:20; inscription, Mark 15:26; ignorance concerning God, Acts 3:17; spiritual blindness, II Cor. 4:4; life from God, Ec. 8:15; seekers, Isa. 55:6; God the Preserver, Gen. 2:2; poets of Greece, Zech. 9:13; repentance, Mark 1:4; the Judgment, II Pet. 3:7; Jesus, Judge, Matt. 1:21; Resurrection of Jesus, I Cor. 15:12.

Main Lesson—It is not enough for a person to believe that there is a God, but he must know and worship the only true God Jehovah in order to be saved, and God will not excuse ignorance concerning Him.

Other Lessons—When we do not help other people to know the true God we are committing a sin and neglecting a great opportunity. Paul might have gone about the city of Athens admiring its beautiful buildings and statuary and not troubled himself about the gods the people worshipped, but instead of that he at once began to preach to the people of the true God.

It is not enough to be educated; the people of Athens were well educated—they were philosophers—but they did not know God. Even the most lowly, the most ignorant person, can be a true Christian.

We should not always be wanting to hear something new—new religions, new superstitions; the Gospel of Jesus Christ is as old as the world, and yet it is the only saving power.

Practical Thoughts—All Christians, and this means Junior Leaguers, should do all they can to persuade men to accept Christ as their Saviour. If we have God's direction, promise, presence, comfort and protection we need fear nothing; God will give us success. Even the heathen cease to persecute the missionaries when they preach Christ. All Christians should store up in their minds much Scripture so as to be able to teach others about God, and the best time to do it is when we are children, and the best place to do it is in the Junior League.

Suggestions for Essays—Tell all you know about altars; describe an altar. Tell what is the difference between Epicureans and Stoics. (Consult dictionary.) Tell what you can about Mars Hill or the Areopagus.

—

It has been recommended to local Leagues that the pastor, church council, and all earnest League workers, urge each successive catechetical class, when confirmed, to join the League in a body, and that the president of each local League personally supervise a thorough canvass of all the confirmed members of the local church; inviting and urging them to join the League and aid in the work.

Luther League Shows Great Progress

REV. LUTHER M. KUHNS, GENERAL SECRETARY.

BRAND new reports from the Luther Leagues show great progress. Activities reported here comprise operations of the Leagues for the last two months only. Reference to my previous articles in recent issues of The Review, taken in connection with these latest statements of Luther League work, clearly indicate, "nothing succeeds like success."

PRACTICAL THINGS THE STATE LEAGUES ARE DOING

Two small State Leagues have inaugurated a "campaign of publicity" by securing new subscribers to THE LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW. In this "Every Member Canvass" one of these Leagues has sent in thirty-four new subscribers and the other thirty-three new subscriptions to THE REVIEW since their 1915 conventions. This is worthy of imitation by others.

Two State Leagues have adopted resolutions asking for better recognition of the Luther League activities by the various church papers.

Several State Leagues since their conventions report a number of applications from new local Luther Leagues for membership in their respective State Leagues.

The presidents of two State Leagues have been heard from since last writing the Review. One of these presidents writes: "The attendance at our convention was splendid. This convention showed an increased interest in the State Luther League work. It showed that a number of young people in the congregations were anxious to do something and that only a little encouragement is needed to set them thinking, praying and working." Twenty-seven congregations were represented in this convention. Another State president writes: "The convention gave a broader view of the work in this section. The strength of the State League depends upon the strength of the individual societies and it is my plan to use every means to educate our Leagues so that in the future we will have more intelligent workers. The convention was excellent." This State League was one of the signers to the Call resulting in the organization of the Luther League of America.

The California Luther League held its annual meeting in San Francisco a couple of weeks ago. It was a very successful meeting. At that time a committee was appointed to confer with committees of Lutheran bodies in that section for the purpose of setting aside a special day at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition for the Lutheran Church. The idea was that this should be held as near Reformation Day as possible. The officials of the Exposition have set aside Saturday, October 30, for this meeting. It is expected that the Lutheran Churches of California will co-operate in making this a gala occasion for the Lutherans of California.

The Illinois Luther League Convention at Woodstock was one of the best in the history of that League. The evening sessions of this convention were held in the Opera House as the church was not large enough to accommodate the audiences that assembled. This League gave $25 for inner missions, $750 for foreign missions, and for home missions and church extension $1,658.

A feature of this convention was the number of men present. The men equalled the number of women present. One of the speakers remarked: "What an inspiration to look into the faces of such a solid phalanx of men." A hundred and twenty delegates, not including pastors and visitors, were present. A layman who was present and who is competent to judge characterizes it as "the most successful convention of the State organization," and says, "I am sure that whoever attended this convention received some benefit to take back to their own Leagues. It was a short program but every number was excellent, and there was a great deal of enthusiasm shown. I believe that this convention will have a tendency to increase the membership in the State organization." Such conventions are stimulating.

One of our State presidents, finding that hundreds of young Lutherans leave their home town and church, often going to the larger cities to be educated, has conceived the idea of trying to secure from pastors the names of their young people away from their home town attending school and college. He intends to keep these Lutheran students loyal to the church by putting them into touch with the Luther Leagues in the educational centers. Recently the local League of which this president is a member gave a most successful reception to the students attending college in the State president's home town. Not only were the Luther Leaguers present but large

numbers of older members of the congregation were there to welcome the students and to invite them to make this church their religious home during attendance at college.

SOCIAL FEATURES OF DISTRICT LEAGUE LIFE

Two District Leagues held a joint field day and picnic. A novel feature in another District was a "union picnic" of its local Leagues at which several hundred Leaguers representing all the different local societies were present. Several others report successful excursions. One District held a successful sectional "rally" attended by the District officers, and one of the smaller District Leagues had a convention with seventy delegates present. Gains in District League membership are reported and the Conventions have been "largely attended and marked by a devotional and earnest spirit."

A District has planned a series of meetings for the next few months. The social meetings are so planned as to create enthusiasm. These meetings are in addition to the meetings handled by the Efficiency and Extension Committee which is divided into two squads of five each going out on alternate Sundays where Leagues are weak and need a little life and enthusiasm infused. These meetings have proved to be a great success. The result has been two Leagues were added to the District and State. They hope to add at least six new Leagues.

LOCAL LEAGUES GROW AND WORK

A Junior League of forty charter members recently has been organized. A Junior League is reported as contributing fifty dollars for a window in their new Church; another has organized a choir of seventeen voices, and another had a two weeks "camp" which was a pleasant outing for the juniors.

Within the last two months five new Leagues have been organized with charter memberships from fourteen to forty-four, and one of these reports "the attendance so far is nearly one hundred per cent." All these Leagues are "still growing." In a recent campaign for members one League reached a total membership of 100 resulting "in increased attendance at the devotional meetings," and another added ninety new members.

Three Leagues report assisting financially in church improvements, one of these gave $250. A League of 168 members subscribes for fifty-five copies of The Review and recently purchased eighty-four badges. A League gave a portrait of Martin Luther to the public library and this League has arranged to place "the quadricentennial edition of Luther's works" on the shelves in the public library, and yet another has started a library composed "strictly of Lutheran literature."

One of the Leagues prominently participated in the dedicatory services of their new church, another took charge of "the mid-week prayer service during the pastor's vacation," and another assists in the regular evening service of the congregation.

A larger number of Leagues than usual have continued their devotional meetings during the summer months. The reports speak of "gratifying summer attendance," and from all sections are indications of "a growing attendance at devotional meetings." This shows awakened spiritual interest.

The League not only takes an important part in training the laity of the church, but early in life it creates a proper spirit of activity. The young people are interested in arranging and caring for the churchly decorations of God's House, and for the worship and service of the church. It trains them to be useful in looking after the fast increasing details of church work. It stirs up the indifferent and careless and teaches reverence and respect for sacred things. The Luther League has the true spirit of helpfulness.

LEAGUE HELPS YOUNG MEN DECIDE FOR THE MINISTRY.

Two young men from a city League are preparing for the ministry. Seven men in one State credit the League with influencing them to enter the ministry. In this State from the ranks of the League fifty-four candidates for the ministry are reported.

The latest report from a State says, "That through the influence of the League four young women are engaged in deaconess work, and three others are preparing for the ministry of mercy."

These are not isolated instances. This is the constant recorded influence of the Luther League; and a gratifying feature of Luther League work is to be greeted again and yet again by, "I am in the ministry because of what the Luther League has done for me," or "I am a deaconess because of the influence of the Luther League."

The Luther League adds to the ranks of those who consecrate their lives to the min-

istry of mercy. The Luther League encourages young men and helps them to fill the ranks of the ministry of the word.

These facts which can be duplicated over the field clearly show the life and working power of the Luther League. Facts like these show the attainment of the purpose of the League. Facts such as these are an inspiration "to work and pray." All this is shown by these encouraging facts.

BOOK REVIEWS

DEVOTIONAL READINGS FROM LUTHER'S WORKS. Rev. John Sander, L.H.D. Augustana Book Concern, Rock Island, Ill. Price, cloth, $1.

The Lutheran Church has a rich treasury of devotional literature. Also, there are many books for daily devotional reading. Nevertheless we welcome this well made, convenient for handling and finely printed new book of devotional reading, which brings Luther to us daily. Luther's Works, translated by the direction and under the supervision of Rev. John N. Leuker, D. D., furnish the text for the selections from Luther's sermons and devotional writings, and these selections are well chosen. The purpose of this book is, first, to give a Scripture text and comment from Luther for every day in the year; and these comments are not little scraps of sentiment, but they are full page comments—not too long for the devotional purpose; second, to introduce Luther to a larger circle of English readers; and "America does not realize what an inheritance she has received from Luther and the Lutheran Reformation"; third, that Luther and the Reformation may be better understood and appreciated; and here to English readers Luther speaks for himself; fourth, to give a better understanding of the Scriptures, to lead to Christ, and to furnish comfort and consolation because of Christian faith.

We like the book, and because we appreciate it we commend it as a book every Lutheran should own. The index of texts will be especially helpful to pastors who may desire to know Luther's comment on a special passage of Scripture.

THE LUTHERAN DOCTRINE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER: ITS BIBLICAL AND SCIENTIFIC BASIS, by J. A. Hall, D.D. The Lutheran Publication Society, Philadelphia.

This is a monograph on one of the distinctive doctrines of the Lutheran Church. The fifty-three pages are printed in clear type on heavy paper, and the style of writing in presenting the subject is attractive. We commend it to our readers, both pastors and laymen.

Luther League Supplies

Luther League Topics

"These are the best topics ever issued for use at young people's devotional meetings. The Lessons are arranged in accordance with the general plan of the Church Year. They are Biblical and Doctrinal, Historical and Missionary and contain appropriate Daily Bible Readings, Scripture references and illustrative suggestions. They are largely used and deserve to be adopted by every Lutheran Young People's Society."

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Luther League Reading Courses

Adopted by the Luther League of America

These books ought to be in the library of every Lutheran Sunday School and Young People's Society. They can easily be secured, as will be noted below.

First Course

1. Lutheran Manual, Remensnyder 2. Schoenberg Cotta Family, Mrs. Rundel Charles. 3. Way of Salvation, Gerberding. 4. Praying and Working, Stevenson. 5. Lutheran Foreign Missions, Lauray.

Price $3.50, expressage prepaid, or sent free for 15 new subscribers to the REVIEW at 50 cents each.

Second Course

1. Life of Luther, Wackernagel 2. Spener and Francke, Mrs. Marie Richard. 3. Life of Melanchthon, Stump. 4. Ecclesia Lutherana, Seiss. 5. Lutherans in America, Wolff.

Price $5.00, expressage prepaid, or sent free for 20 new subscribers to the REVIEW at 50 cents each.

Third Course

1. Conversion of India, George Smith 2. Sacred Meditations, Gerhard. 3. The Common Service, Scheele 4. Martin Luther, Jacobs. 5. The Deaconess Calling, Wacker.

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Fourth Course

1. Elements of Religion, Jacobs. 2. The Golden Altar Seiss. 3. Gustavus Adolphus, Fletcher. 4. Luther on Education, Painter. 5. The Life of Christ, Stalker.

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Editorial

The Luther League carries on its work as a helpful agency of the Church through three lines of work, namely, the social, the intellectual and the religious. It should be known that along each of these three lines contribution is made to self-culture, and to self-culture of a right sort. Self-culture is an obligation we owe self and God. Here is an organization whose aim is to aid youthful Christians in leading lives of loyalty to Christ, and their Church. It remains for each member of the Luther League to accept the privilege offered by this organization, and to receive the high form of self-culture it offers. Learn well the tenets of your Church. Give heed to the explanations offered in its reading course. Give some attention to the discussion of the Topics prepared for your meetings. Each member may delve into the truths set forth, and each one may formulate them intelligently for his own benefit. You will learn and remember the applications you yourself make of the lessons, and you will be abundantly repaid for your toil in personal improvement.

The Luther League is an unselfish organization. All its hopes, aims, aspirations are for the Church. And why not? For what faith can be more true to the New Testament teaching of Justification by Faith Alone? And what Church can point to such leaders as Luther, Melancthon, Francke, Fliedner, Muhlenberg, and the scores of missionaries whose remains now sanctify heathen lands? And what, next to the Bible itself, can inspire our young people to noble actions as the studying of the lives of men who have fought the world, the flesh and the devil and have risen above trials and temptations through the aid of the Cross? May God crown the efforts of all our young people with true success, may we all be loyal to the Church, faithful to the principles of the Luther League and do what our hands find to do with all our might as unto the Lord.

A practical suggestion is offered our Leagues for the work of the year. As it has to do with the activities of our societies it may form a part of any plan, and its adoption can only make any plan more successful. It assumes that our societies are active. "Doing things" is characteristic of youth, and, no matter what his years may be, he does not belong to the young people's class unless he has the spirit. No more does a young people's society exist for a name. A young people's society that simply exists and does nothing is an anomaly. It is this spirit of "doing things" we desire directed for increased efficiency for the year's work. We propose that our societies develop competent power. This expects that they shall develop sufficient ability to effect the aims of their organization. This means and is a call for increased efficiency. The thing confidently proposed as the aim of our Leagues for the next year is the cultivation of increased efficiency all along the line of work; and this power to produce an intended result will be shown in its production.

Increased Christian activity may be fostered and stimulated in our Luther Leagues. There are many young people in our Church whom the officers and members of our societies can no doubt interest.

Our Churches and Institutions

In Some of Our Large Cities

NEW YORK

—Rev. Otto Graessler's twenty-fifth anniversary as pastor of Trinity Church was celebrated September 5.

PHILADELPHIA

—Christ Church, Chestnut Hill, now has Rev. Henry Schaeffer, Ph. D., as its pastor, installation having taken place September 26.

—Zion's Church, Rev. F. W. Friday, pastor, has outgrown its present home and on Sunday, October 3, ground was broken for an addition to its present building.

—The Church of the Incarnation, Rev. Arthur T. Michler, pastor, has started a series of community services with the purpose of reaching every home in the neighborhood of the church.

—The Church of the Holy Trinity, a new church for the Slavs of this city, consecrated its new edifice on Sunday, October 3.

—Rev. W. H. Bauers was installed as pastor of the new Church of the Holy Spirit, Broad and Champlost streets, Fern Rock, Sunday evening, October 3.

—On Sunday, September 19, Rev. Robert Harris Gearhart, Jr., was installed as pastor of Grace Church, Spring Garden and Thirty-fifth streets.

—Henry Schefer, who died August 29, bequeathed $10,000 to Christ's Church and $2,000 to the Germantown Orphanage.

CHICAGO

—Rev. Prof. Elmer F. Krauss, D. D., was inaugurated president of the seminary at Maywood on September 7. At this time Rev. Prof. H. B. Reed, B. D., and Rev. Prof. Joseph Stump, D. D., were installed professors of Old Testament Exegesis and Dogmatic Theology, respectively. The service of inauguration and installation was conducted by Rev. Samuel Wagenhals, D. D., president of the board of directors.

BALTIMORE

—Rev. Foster U. Gift and the congregation of Calvary Church, this city, celebrated September 30 the fifth anniversary of the present pastorate. The church records show that during these five years 256 new members have been received into church fellowship, and the total contributions of the congregation for all causes have amounted to $31,385.

ST. LOUIS

—Mr. Frederick Aug. Uhlich, a prominent druggist and chemist, and probably the oldest Lutheran of St. Louis, died September 25. On November 20 he would have completed the one hundredth year of his life. He was one of the last survivors of the Saxon colonists who came to St. Louis in 1839. He was actively associated with the late Dr. Walther and other pastors of St. Louis and was a generous supporter of the work of the Lutheran Church, especially the educational institutions.

BUFFALO

—Rev. G. G. Ruff, of Dunkirk, N. Y., has received and accepted a call to the Church of the Reformation, this city. He will be in his new field by October 15.

MINNEAPOLIS

—On Sunday, October 3, St. Matthew's English Lutheran Church was organized by Field Missionary Rev. Deck at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Backdahl. The new congregation will begin its work in a hall at 8 West Forty-third street. A plot of land for the location of a church home has been secured.

SYRACUSE

—Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, General Secretary of the Luther League of America, has accepted an invitation to deliver the address at a grand rally Reformation service on the evening of October 31, at St. Peter's Church, this city.

GENERAL

—In some respects the most interesting session of the General Council ever held took place at Rock Island, Ill., in September. The cleavage between sections of the Church represented in this body which had been feared, if not expected, did not appear, and every disposition in that direction seems to have been dissipated. Progress along all lines was recorded. The statistical report showed that, connected with the General Council there are 2,547 congregations, served by 1,688 ministers. In these congregations there are 504,023 communicant members, or 769,456 baptized members. There are 279,697 scholars in the Sunday schools.

—The jubilee fund of the Iowa Synod has reached the sum of $183,365.44.

—The first class of five native theological students was graduated recently from the theological department of Kyushu Gakuin, under the mission in Japan conducted by the United Synod South.

—Rev. Carl Thurow recently died at Root Creek, Wis., at the age of 72 years, after having served St. John's Church there for 42 years.

—As the result of missionary work in Porto Rico since that island came under the government of the United States there are now reported nine congregations, twelve mission institutions, sixteen mission Sunday schools, six Luther Leagues and one kindergarten.

—Of 110 students graduated from seven colleges of the Missouri Synod last spring, 100 have entered the theological seminary at St. Louis.

—The new Hamma Divinity Hall, at Springfield, Ohio, will be dedicated with appropriate services, November 10 and 11.

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Luther League

Conducted by I. S. RUNYON

SEND IN THE NEWS—Under this heading we aim to give the fullest reports possible of all District and Local Leagues. Secretaries and other officers are earnestly solicited to send in reports and items of news promptly.

Luther League of America

Organized at Pittsburgh, Pa., October 30 and 31, 1895, by delegates representing State, District and individual organizations from twenty different States in the Union and District of Columbia.

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NEW YORK

NEW YORK CITY DISTRICT

—The Luther League of New York City will hold its next business meeting at Holy Trinity Church, Sixty-fifth street and Central Park West on Wednesday evening, October 20, at which time the Executive Committee's suggestions for the season's work will be considered. One of the questions to be canvassed is whether to revive the annual banquet, and another may be what practical work in the Church the local Leagues can carry on.

BUFFALO DISTRICT

—On September 14 the Luther League of Parkside Church, Buffalo, began its fall work. A corps of officers have been duly elected and installed, and it is believed the coming winter will be a most profitable one.

NEW JERSEY

—At a meeting of the Executive Committee of Luther League of New Jersey, Rev. C. T. McDaniel, of Holy Trinity Church, Hoboken, was elected president, to serve the unexpired term of Mr. A. E. Armitage, who resigned in May. Mr. Armitage is now engaged in Y. M. C. A. work in McAlpin, W. Va. All communications and notices regarding Luther League work and the state convention should be addressed to Rev. C. T. McDaniel, 204 Tenth street, Hoboken, N. J.

The state convention will be held election day, November 2, 1915.

PENNSYLVANIA

—The first issue of The Luther League Bulletin, published quarterly by the Luther League of Pennsylvania, has appeared. Mr. P. Walter Banker, 126 Wyoming street, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., is the editor. The Bulletin is to provide for the officers an opportunity to speak directly to the pastors and to the laymen of the Church who are actively connected with the League, and also to furnish those who might be interested in the work an opportunity to know something of what the League is doing.

UPPER LEHIGH VALLEY DISTRICT

—The most successful Luther League Rally ever held in the Upper Lehigh Valley District was held Wednesday evening, October 6, in Christ Lutheran Church, Hazleton, Pa.

The services opened by singing a number of hymns and a selection by the choir of Christ Church. District President Stauffer delivered a short address. He also outlined in part the work to be taken up at the next district convention.

This address was followed by a duet, Mrs. William Fry and Mrs. George Schaller singing "Whispering Hope."

The principal address of the evening was delivered by Rev. P. F. Pfeil, of West Hazleton. He took as his subject "Luther Leagues and Young People's Societies." He gave a very interesting address, showing how the Luther Leagues grew out of the young people's societies. He also outlined the duties of Luther Leaguers.

After the closing services a very delightful luncheon was served in the social rooms of the church. All spent a very pleasant evening.

About 250 people were in attendance, coming from Freeland, White Haven, Weatherly, St. Johns, Conygham, West Hazleton and Audenried. The next rally will be held at Weatherly, on November 6.

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LANCASTER DISTRICT

—The twenty-first annual convention of the Lancaster District Luther League was held at Trinity Lutheran Church, New Holland, on September 25, 1915. The discussions were numerous, and much good was derived from them.

The "Round Table" talk on Luther League problems offered solutions of many problems of today's League work, such as methods to interest members in Luther League work, and how can Sunday evening meetings be made more interesting?

The various committees gave satisfactory reports and the officers of the past year were re-elected as follows:

President, John M. Fry, Ephrata; vice-president, G. S. Townsley, New Holland; recording secretary, Florence R. Wolpert, Lancaster; corresponding secretary, Maude S. Trabert, Lebanon; statistician, Charles B. Brady, Lancaster; treasurer, M. L. Weidman, Ephrata.

The evening address by Mr. Harry Hodges, vice-president of the Luther League of Pennsylvania, on "Our Lutheran Heritage," gave an inspiring conclusion to the convention.

PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

—The forty seventh annual convention of the Pittsburgh District Luther League will be held Thursday, November 11, 1915, in the First Lutheran Church, Grant street, Pittsburgh.

Local Leagues and Junior organizations are entitled to five delegates each, in addition to the pastors and presidents.

The Executive Committee will announce details of arrangements. Program, etc., later. Credentials will be mailed to the secretaries.

K. J. F. Wilharm, President;
Caroline A. Beyer, Secretary.

OHIO

LIMA DISTRICT

—In a recent campaign for members the Luther League of St. Paul's Church reached a total membership of about 100, and as a result the attendance at the devotional meetings has doubled. A Junior Luther League, under the direction of the pastor, the Rev. E. A. Trabert, has been organized with a charter membership of forty. The Lima District League will be entertained by St. Paul's League on November 10, and the Junior League will give a demon-

stration of Junior work as the chief feature of the meeting.

NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT

—The regular fall convention of the District Luther League of Northwestern Ohio will be held on Wednesday, October 13, in St. Lucas Church. A practical program has been arranged and the leaders look forward to one of the best conventions ever held by this district.

—On Wednesday evening, September 15, the District Luther League of Northwestern Ohio gave a banquet in St. Matthew's Church. The purpose of the banquet was to get the young people together and get every one interested in the coming national convention, which will be held in Toledo. The weather was unfavorable from heavy electrical rainstorms, but that did not prevent a large attendance on the part of our Leaguers. The event was unusually pleasant and profitable.

MICHIGAN

DETROIT DISTRICT

—The Fall Rally of the Detroit District Luther League was held on September 30, at St. Paul's Church, Rev. A. K. Walborn, pastor.

The topic for the rally was entitled "Ways and Means for Effective League Work," divided for discussion among three lay members of the Leagues represented; "Increasing Attendance," Miss Wilhelmina Lorberg; "Cultivating the Social Side," Mrs. W. J. Hanning; "Developing the Intellectual Side," A. A. Kunkle.

Rev. W. J. Hanning and Rev. J. A. Miller took part in the discussion. The social features of the rally were made a success by the generous hospitality of St. Paul's Leaguers.

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO DISTRICT

—The First Annual Field Day of the Luther League of Chicago, held Labor Day, September 6, 1915, at Stagg Field, University of Chicago, was a great success. Chicago enjoys the distinction of having taken the initiative in this direction. Chicago's venture into this hitherto unexplored realm has called forth words of commendation from many prominent Luther Leaguers, who are unanimous in their assertions that the Field Day should be made an annual affair.

Unfortunately, the weather was unfavorable, which served to diminish the attendance, but despite this fact there was delightful enthusiasm manifested by those who were present. Good marks were made by the athletes. Gold, silver and bronze medals were presented to the winners on the evening of Saturday, September 11, at the Sportsmen's Club, on which evening an athletic entertainment was provided. The announcement of the president that the Field Day would be an annual affair evoked much applause.

Al Anderson, of Bethel, and F. J. Stamm, of Ascension, tied for individual honors with ten points each, and both were presented with beautiful silver cups. Bethel Luther League led with a total of 40 points and received the splendid team trophy donated by Frank O. Lowden. Ravenswood was second with 24 points and Ascension third with 13.

In addition to the athletic events, there was music by the Sportsmen's Club Band and a drill by Company M of the Illinois National Guards.

INDIANA

—Mr. Frank Laughner, of Whitestown, was bereaved by the death of his wife, August 24. Mr. Laughner is an ex-president of the Luther League of Indiana.

—The Luther League at Millersburg, Rev. Honk, pastor, which was organized July 10, 1915, with twenty-five members, now has sixty members, and is making a strong effort to increase the membership to 100 during the year. This League includes members from the Reformed and Christian Churches.

NORTHERN DISTRICT

—The Northern District Convention of Indiana will be held November 10, at the Christ Lutheran Church of Fort Wayne, Rev. H. Hadley, pastor.

—On Sunday evening, September 19, 1915, in St. Paul's Church, Frankfort, Ind., Rev. M. L. Stirewalt, pastor, the Luther League met to begin its work for the winter. Thirty persons were present. Hon. O. C. C. Fetta, president of the State League, gave the members a suitable talk. Mr. Samuel Mohr is president and Miss Ernshoff is secretary.

KANSAS

A farewell service which is of special interest to Luther Leaguers was held in St. John's Lutheran Church, Salina, Kansas, Sunday evening, September 26, for Mr. and Mrs. Carl F. Kemner, who with their baby Ruth and a party of other missionaries, sailed for India from Vancouver on the 11th of October. Mr. Kemner is under appointment as a lay missionary by the Foreign Board of the General Synod. He goes direct to Guntur and will work under the direction of the India Conference.

Mr. Kemner has been closely identified with the Luther League work for several years. The inspiration to dedicate his life to work on the foreign field came to Mr. Kemner in large measure through the Luther League. He was faithful at the devotional services of his own League and took an active part in the social, benevolent, missionary and executive work of the League. He served as president of the Salina League for several terms. He was the leading spirit in the reorganization of the Kansas State League and became its president, which office he filled with credit for two years. In his life of service one of the aims of the League is realized.

At the farewell service addresses were made by Mrs. H. L. Humphrey, of Abilene, Kansas,

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representing the Kansas Synodical Society; Mrs. Alice G. Bond, of Salina, representing the general and the local societies; Rev. Holmes Dysinger, D.D., of Atchison, Kansas, representing the Western Theological Seminary, Midland College and the Kansas Synod; and by Rev. Benjamin R. Lantz, representing St. John's Church. At the conclusion of her remarks, Mrs. Bond presented Mr. and Mrs. Kemner with a purse of money, the gift of the women of the Missionary Society and a few other friends. Mr. Kemner made an appropriate response to the good wishes expressed and voiced his appreciation of the many kindnesses bestowed upon him and his wife.

Mr. Fred G. Nicholas, president of the Kansas State League, who was not able to be present, sent the following message:

"To the Lutherans of Salina and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Kemner:

"This evening's service marks a new era in the history of our Lutheran Church in Kansas. It marks our progress. We can realize how rapid that progress is, only when we remember that he who has accepted the commission to go to the utmost parts of the earth with the Gospel message, but four short years ago gave his talents and labors for the reorganization of the Luther League of Kansas.

"This important work, now so well established, you leave in our keeping while you go to larger fields of usefulness. While in a large measure you gave to the Church the Luther League of Kansas, which is so full of promise and possibilities, it will always be our pleasure to remember that the Luther League of Kansas has given to the Lutheran Church and to India one of its presidents.

"Your work in the Luther League of Kansas will not end when you begin your work in India. Our Leagues will have a more personal interest in India and in foreign missions. Our Leaguers will catch a broader vision of our Church's work in the world and of their own relationship to that work.

"On behalf of the Luther League of Kansas, I bid you God-speed, assuring you of our appreciation of your work among us and assuring you of our interest and prayers in your behalf.

May the Great Head of the Church bless your labors and keep you and yours, for 'He keepeth those in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Him.'"

MINNESOTA

—The Luther League of the Church of the Redeemer, Minneapolis, began its season's work Saturday evening, September 25, with a social meeting at Pastor Rockey's home. Although the weather was not favorable, forty young people came out. The League is full of enthusiasm and is gradually gaining in membership.

CALIFORNIA

—On Wednesday, September 15, the Luther League of St. Michael's Church, Berkeley, held its second annual meeting, at which the reports of officers and committees showed the organization in good condition.

During the year a pledge was made to help reduce the Church indebtedness and this pledge has been partially redeemed, with plans for raising the balance of the subscription progressing nicely.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, William B. Scheehl; vice-president, Miss Mabel Bremer; secretary, Miss Ella Larsen; treasurer, Miss Helen Swanstrom.

TEXAS

—Mr. Ed. Koepp, an active and interested member of the Luther League at Victoria, Texas, died recently, and the League adopted suitable resolutions of respect.

BOOK REVIEWS

THE ART OF LIVING LONG, by Luigi Cornaro. Portraits. William F. Butler, Milwaukee. Price, $2.

This is a "new and improved" translation of the Venetian Centenarian's treatise, with essays by Addison, Bacon and Sir William Temple. Its purpose in Franklin's words "is the defensive virtue, abstinence," yet Cornaro "permitted wine to form a portion of his abstemious diet" while inculcating temperance. Strange! and not coinciding with present prevalent opinion. Judiciously read it will impart helpful dietary suggestions. It is not a book for the thoughtless. Of the 214 pages, 74 only are on "The Art of Living Long." It is well bound, large type, and good paper.

THE SHADOW TRAY, by Erin Kohn. Lutheran Board of Publication, Columbia, S. C. 15c per copy, $1.50 per dozen; carriage extra; 51 pp.

This is a serial story. The scene is laid in Japan, and has a missionary purpose, as this quotation will show: "Suppose—just suppose he were to come to your church and forget as usual and ask you if you helped to send the Jesus-God to Japan? Won't you be happy to tell him you did?"

THE PRIMARY HYMNAL, compiled by Harold Lewars. The Lutheran Publication Society, Philadelphia.

This is a book of hymns and songs for little children. There are order of service, prayers, Psalms to be memorized and other features helpful in Primary and Junior work. There are 143 well selected hymns.

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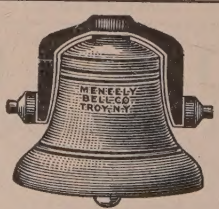

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